

Youth football, 9/11 ceremony planned

By Chris Sykes
Staff Writer

Sunday will mark the 10th anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center in New York, the Pentagon in Washington, D.C., and a third unsuccessful attack that ended in a Pennsylvania field, all of which took the lives of several thousands of people.

City officials have scheduled a ceremony that not only honors the people of that day but focuses on the future.

Earlier this week, Mayor Eldridge Hawkins Jr. said the Orange Youth Football and cheer-leading teams will open the season on Sunday inside Bell Stadium.

In addition, Hawkins said a national 9/11 bus was scheduled to

stop in Orange this week.

“The bus left Manhattan Beach, Calif., on Jan. 25 and will arrive in Manhattan for the 9/11 ceremonies at ground zero.”

Hawkins said tour members take photos of firefighters in front of the bus logo for a book to be presented to the Fire Department of New York on Sunday.

As historic as the 10th anniversary

will be, Hawkins said Orange’s youth would be the focus of the community on Sunday. He said that the four football teams — the Storms, Hurricanes, Cyclones and Tornadoes — come off a remarkable season that had all four teams reach division championship games of the Twin Valley Football Conference.

“The Orange Youth Football teams have long been a source of pride for our community,” Hawkins said. “This year, we are especially proud of their extraordinary 2010 season.”

Games are scheduled to begin at 10:30 a.m.

Keith Pressey, supervisor of the Division of Recreation, said the Hurricanes are going into the season as the favorites to win their league once again. They said the team will benefit from gaining graduating players from the Storms, who won its division. The other teams must dethrone reigning champs in their divisions.

“This is a very talented team with an explosive, no-huddle offense,” Pressey said. “Many teams within the league are fully aware of this team’s capabilities and are trying to scheme up defenses to stop the Hurricanes.”

Pressey said that he anticipates a “solid seasons” from all of Orange’s youth teams.

“Our Tornadoes look to get back on track after having their 21-game winning streak snapped in a hard-fought championship battle against Jersey City,” Pressey said. “Our Cyclones look to surpass their success in reaching the championship although coming up short. Their confidence is high.”

Information about the Orange Youth Football opening-day ceremony, contact Pressey at 973-266-4045.

Opening day excitement



Photo Courtesy Orange School District

Dancers from the Orange High School marching band travel down the aisle during the Sept. 1 superintendent’s forum inside the Orange Preparatory Academy to open the school year.