

Run fundraiser remembers Anderson residents

By Jill Rooksberry

Community Press Contributor
 ANDERSON TWP. — The Anderson community came out in support of the second annual Run to Remember Sept. 10 — and the loved ones the run commemorated.

This 2.5-mile run/walk along the paved trail of Beech Acres Park honored the lives of Nancy Horn, Lonnie Bertle, Gerry Meisman and Scott Barkley and also helped raise money for the Beech Acres Park Playground fund.

The run attracted around 350 runners and walkers and was followed by a party with live music, food and beverages at the Beech Acres Park Amphitheater. According to Amy Molerle of the Anderson Park District, the evening was a success on all counts.

"We had a great turnout, great weather and there was a good feel-

After losing his beloved wife, Nancy, in 2003 to an aggressive form of brain cancer, T.J. Horn of Anderson helped develop the Run to Remember. Horn and his two sons, Mitch and Jake, wanted a way to honor Nancy who was an active member of the Anderson community.

ing," said Molerle. "We are pleased with the success of the event and we're going to continue with this to make it an annual event."

After losing his beloved wife, Nancy, in 2003 to an aggressive form of brain cancer, T.J. Horn of Anderson helped develop the Run to Remember. Horn and his two sons, Mitch and Jake, wanted a way to honor Nancy who was an active member of the Anderson community.

"She loved children," Horn said. "What better way to honor her than to have a race where the money goes to the Park District for a playground."

The first Run to Remember honored just Nancy and this year Horn wanted to open up the race to others who were looking for a way to pay tribute to friends or family who have passed on.

"We wanted to keep the name of the race, and let other people share in memorializing loved ones that they've lost," Horn said.

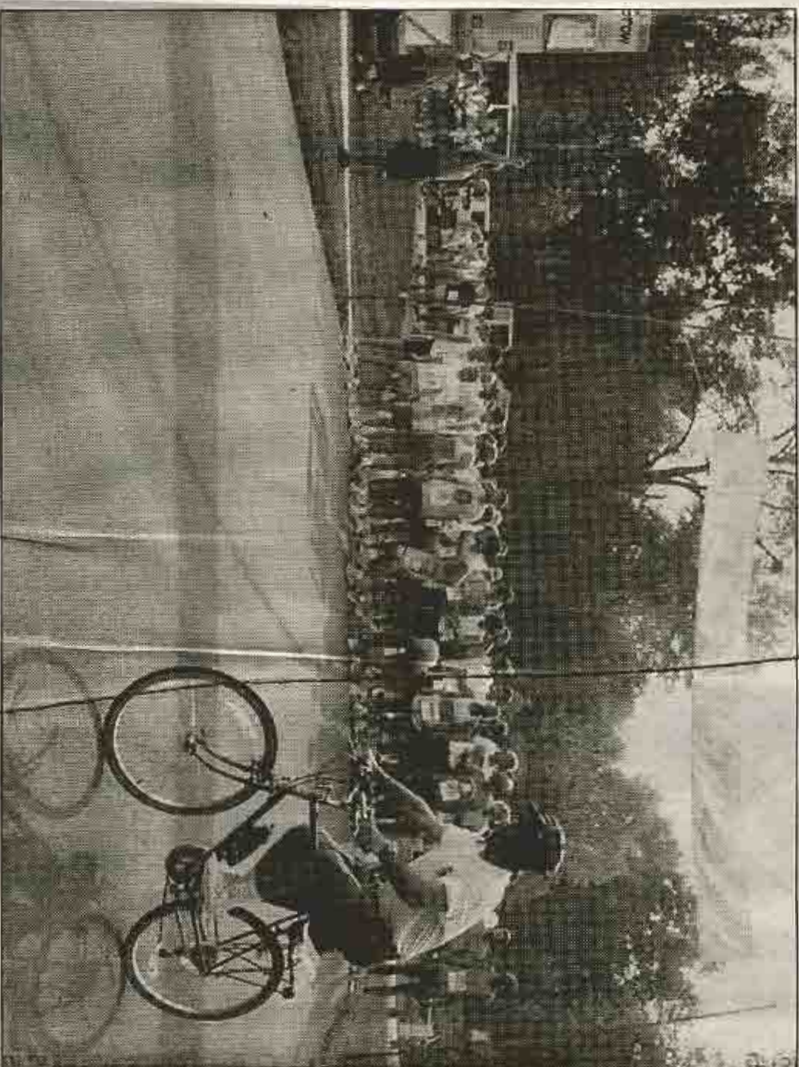
When Annie Barkley of Anderson heard about the race she decided that her father Scott Barkley would have been thrilled to have his name associated with a race whose proceeds were going to help local children enjoy the great outdoors.

"He was an outdoors guy and he was very family oriented," said Barkley.

Renowned playground designer Teri Hendy of Site Master Inc. put together the plan for the playground at Beech Acres Park. The play area will include a number of amenities including a separate area for toddlers or a "tor lot" and will be for disabled and able-bodied children alike.

Adults can join in on the fun too, park district executive director Molly McClure said.

"This playground is not just for children," McClure said. "This playground will allow parents in



This is the beginning of this year's Run to Remember race.

wheelchairs and elderly grandparents to participate along side their child as well."

The playground will be built in stages as funding becomes available.

To donate money to the playground or see detailed plans of the park, go to www.andersonparks.com or call 474-0003, ext. 5080.

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