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Basketball for a cause

By Mitch Gallo
The Suburban

The Sian Bradwell Fund annual All-Star basketball weekend celebrated its 15th year and once again put on a show.

Bell Media and the Montreal Alouettes teamed up and went head to head in a charity basketball game for the foundation.

"If you have the opportunity to make the difference in the life of a young person and put a smile on someone's face that's key," said Alouettes' linebacker Kyries Herbert. "This is something that has been going on for many years and it does well for the community, does well for the school and does well for the kids so it's a win-win."

Fans packed John Rennie's gym to watch Anwar Stewart, Jeff Perrett, Tyrell Sutton, Andrew Lue, Eric Deslauriers and Kyries Hebert take the floor and show off their elite athleticism. At the other end, Bell Media's team included Sean Campbell, Jay Farrar, Jessica Rusnak, Paris Mansouri and Elliot Price.

The Sian Bradwell Fund was started in 1986, to help children with cancer and their families by purchasing medical equipment for diagnosis, treatment and research. It's in honor of Sian, who was diagnosed on May 1, 1985 as having a form of cancer called 'primitive neuroectodermal tumour' in her liver, spine and foot. Doctors thought the cancer had started in her pancreas and spread through her bloodstream. She lived for just 17 months.

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Heading into the weekend the total fund raised was \$171,534.40. Their next event will be the 27th edition Sian Bradwell Softball Tournament which is held at the end of July.

"It's a great cause and the day is a lot of fun for everyone involved," said Jay Farrar of TSN 690 who was the game host for the event. "It's a pleasure to be here and to get whooped by the Alouettes in a game of basketball."

The Alouettes stayed around after the event to sign autographs and chat with the 300 plus fans that showed up to support the cause.

