

Football Fever!



- Dan Leahul Photo

Airdrie's Atom Storm team practices its drills at an evening session under the September sun.

Atom and PeeWee Storm squads begin 2007 season

dan leahul

airdrie city view

Minor football fever is taking Airdrie by Storm once again this year.

Airdrie's own Atom and PeeWee squads now have a solid month of practice under their belts and will be hitting the field this weekend for some of their first onfield action of the season.

Head coach Thomas Rohl, who has been with the two teams since the start, knows a thing or two about life on the grid iron and hopes the squads can match the success they had last year.

The Atoms posted a lopsided winning record of 15-2, while the PeeWees went all the way to the finals and knocked off the Sherwood Park Cougars 20-0 for the first ever tier III provincial championship.

According to Rohl, the number of players coming to camp each year continues to grow. Thirty six PeeWee players came to play for the Storm this year, and 33 Atom players will be suiting up.

The PeeWee's first league game was rained out, Aug. 27, making the Sept. 6 contest against the Colts its season opener (results too late for press time). The Storm next face Mavericks, Sept. 8.

Meanwhile, the Atoms league opener, Sept. 9 has been cancelled, meaning game one comes Sept. 16 against the Cowboys Navy.

All PeeWee and Atom games are played at Shouldice Park in Calgary.

Rohl expects a few surprises for both teams along the way, as well as a few future budding stars to make their way out of the woodwork.

"At this age level, anything can happen," he said.