

By KENNY VARNER Sentinel sports reporter LEWISTOWN ¶ Off-the-field friends became on-the-field rivals Sunday as the Little Mingo Pee-Wee football team faced-off against the Kish Indians in the 2004 Juniata Valley Football League Pee-Wee Super Bowl. The Mingo took the game 14-0. ¶ Kish played a good game today,¶ said Mingo first-year head coach Anthony Vega. ¶ I love these kids (Mingo) like they were my own. They are a great bunch of kids.¶ The Indians came in with an 11-0 record and the Little Mingo were 10-1. The Mingo only loss came at the hands of the Indians. Excitement started from the first kick of the game. The Mingo won the toss and chose to defer to the second half. As the Mingo lined up, they kicked the ball and before the Indians knew what hit them the Mingo came up with the football on a fumble recovery. ¶ ¶ However, after running only two plays on offense, the Mingo fumbled the ball into the hands of the Indians¶ David Yale. Unfortunately for the Indians, their first play on offense ended in the same result. Recovering the ball for the Little Mingo was Billy Price. The Mingo took their second possession and made the most of it as they rallied for a 12-play 57-yard drive resulting in the first score of the game. Most importantly, the drive ate up the rest of the first quarter and half of the second. With first and goal on the one, Mike Zappetti ran it in from one out for the touchdown, making it 6-0. ¶ I told the kids after the game that you can¶ win them all,¶ said Kish head coach Christian Hassinger. ¶ They have nothing to hang their heads about. They had a super year.¶ The Mingo had a running back-by-committee as had-offs went to Robert Breon, Hunter Wright and Zappetti. Zappetti led the game in rushing as he tallied 73 yards on the night.

¶ ¶ The Mingo started the first half with the ball and worked it down directly into midfield. But, the Mingo also had problems with the ball and lost it due to a fumble. The Mingo¶ defense forced the fourth fumble of the game as the Indians were at the thirty of the Little Mingo. Price again came up with the recovery. From there, the Mingo¶ offense grinded the ball down the field and wore precious minutes off the clock. The Kish offense again could not get anything started and gave the ball back over to the Little Mingo. ¶ ¶ With only thirty-one seconds left, Wright added a touchdown to give the Mingo the 12-0 victory. On the two-point conversion, quarterback Isaac Strohecker found receiver Dylan Kauffman in the corner of the end zone, making it 14-0. The Indians got rushing performances from Chris Miller (37-yards), Yale (8-yards) and John Micheal Maclay (18-yards). Top performances for the Little Mingo was Zappetti (73-yards), Breon (29-yards), Strohecker (18-yards), Wright (12-yards).