



EDITOR'S NOTE: Photography is being sent under separate cover from Carolina Panthers' photographer.

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**Rack Room Shoes Grants Two Wishes During Carolina Panthers'
Dec. 24th Game In Support of The Make-A-Wish Foundation[®]**

*Asheboro Teen Gets Dream SuperBowl Trip,
Lilesville Child Spends Christmas at Disney World*

Rack Room Shoes and The Make-A-Wish Foundation[®] of Central and Western North Carolina gave early holiday gifts to two children by granting their special wishes today during the Carolina Panthers' holiday halftime show. Eric, a 15-year-old football fanatic, learned he is going to Super Bowl XL, and seven-year-old Janay will embark on a magical trip to Disney World.

"Today's special half-time event let 70,000 fans and the community share in Eric and Janay's excitement as they learned that their wishes are coming true, and Rack Room Shoes is very proud to have been a part of that magic," said Jan Mauldin, director of marketing for Rack Room Shoes, which has granted eight wishes this year for Make-A-Wish children throughout the country suffering from life-threatening illnesses.

At Make-A-Wish, they strive to surprise each wish child. When the organization learns that corporate partners and charitable contributions will enable Make-A-Wish to grant wishes it makes the surprise a little more magical, and Eric and Janay were no different. Told they lucked into extra tickets to see a Panthers home game, the children were brought separately by limousine to the Bank of America stadium. As halftime

approached, Janay and Eric were escorted to midfield where they received two enormous presents, delivered by Santa and Sir Purr.

Lilesville-resident Janay, an adorable seven-year-old girl who suffers from Sickle Cell Disease, opened her box to find tickets to the *Walt Disney World*® Resort for herself and her family; they'll fly to Orlando today for a fun-filled week of activities with Mickey and his pals. Eric, a 15-year-old football player and Carolina Panther fan from Asheboro who suffers from Synovial Sarcoma cancer, learned from his favorite players Jake Delhomme and Steve Smith that he would be traveling to Detroit to attend Super Bowl XL in February.

“It’s such a special day for our organization! Through the generosity of Rack Room Shoes and the Panthers, we are able to come together with thousands of fans and the community to celebrate granting magical wishes and to be reminded how the power of a wish can impact so many lives”, said Amy Laws, director of Wish Programs in Charlotte.

About the Make-A-Wish Foundation

The Make-A-Wish Foundation, which grants the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions, was founded in 1980 and has granted 132,000 wishes worldwide since its inception. The organization has 71 chapters in the U.S. and its territories and 28 international affiliates on five continents. On the web at www.wish.org.

The Make-A-Wish Foundation of Central and Western North Carolina covers the state from Burlington through the 51 counties to the west, with regional offices in Charlotte, Asheville and the Triad. In the 2004-2005 fiscal year, the Chapter granted 200 wishes. On the web at www.ncwish.org.

About Rack Room Shoes

Rack Room Shoes, headquartered in Charlotte, N.C., operates more than 300 stores in 24 states, primarily in the Mid-Atlantic, upper Midwest, Southeast and Southwestern states. Rack Room carries a broad assortment of brand name shoes for all occasions for women, men and children. On the web at www.rackroomshoes.com.

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