



JEFF BROHM (photo by: Tom Campbell)

NFF RECEPTION PLANNED FOR NEW PURDUE COACH AND ASSISTANTS

NFF chapter members and high school coaches from throughout the area will have an opportunity to meet Purdue's new head coach Jeff Brohm and members of his staff along with new athletics director Mike Bobinski at an informal reception on Sunday, Feb. 19, at Bruno's Restaurant on the Levee in West Lafayette.

The "Meet The Coach" event, which will run from 4 to 6 p.m., will be free for all current members of the chapter and all coaches. Additional guests are welcome to attend for a \$10 fee payable at the door.

Brohm was announced as Purdue's head coach at a press conference Dec. 5 in the Buchanan Club of Ross-Ade Pavilion. He has been hard at work hiring his staff and recruiting since the day he arrived.

Brohm comes to Purdue following a highly-successful three-year stint as head coach at Western Kentucky, where he won 30 of his 40 games, including a 19-5 Conference USA mark (.792), from 2014 to 2016.

The Hilltoppers were league champions in 2015 and 2016, the first back-to-back titles as an FBS member in school history. They won the 2014 Bahamas Bowl (49-48 over Central Michigan) and the 2015 Miami Beach Bowl (45-35 over Miami, Fla.). His staff completed the sweep in the 2016 Boca Raton Bowl (51-31 over Memphis).

Western Kentucky is one of 10 teams nationally with 10 or more wins each of the last two seasons, along with Alabama, Boise State, Clemson, Michigan, Ohio State, Oklahoma, San Diego State, Temple and Wisconsin.

Under Brohm, Western Kentucky ranked in the top 10 nationally in scoring offense (No. 6 in 2014, No. 3 in 2015 and No. 2 in 2016), passing offense (No. 2 in 2014, No. 4 in 2015 and No. 5 in 2016) and total

Continued on pg. 4

FOUR EVENTS SET FOR 5-MONTH SPAN

FEBRUARY 19 – "MEET THE COACH" INTRODUCING JEFF BROHM

APRIL 2 – PURDUE COLOR DODGEBALL TOURNAMENT

MAY 12 – RYAN KERRIGAN/12TH BOILER GOLF OUTING

JUNE 11 -- NFF HONORS DINNER "CELEBRATING OUR LEGENDS XIII"

Putting on first class events and honoring individuals for their accomplishments are the main focal points of the National Football Foundation's Joe Tiller Chapter of Northwest Indiana. And 2017 will be no exception.

As our first deadline of the year approaches (Feb. 3) for the nominations process for the Scholar-Athlete of the Year Award, we will continue accepting nominations through the end of March for the other chapter awards (see awards and nomination form on adjoining pages).

And, many details are now in place for four important events involving our chapter this winter and spring as we roll into our 13th year of existence.

First upon us is a "meet and greet" reception on Sunday, Feb. 19, at Bruno's featuring Purdue's new head football coach and director of athletics for an informal opportunity of getting acquainted with our chapter members and the high school coaches of Northwest Indiana.

Activities continue on Sunday afternoon, April 2, as Purdue Gold Standard, our partner student organization, puts on its fifth annual Color Dodgeball For A Cause on Purdue's Intramural Fields working in cooperation with Gimlet Leadership Honorary along with several student organizations.

Then, on Friday, May 12, the chapter joins forces with Purdue's Trademarks Licensing Office to host an event, the Ryan Kerrigan/12th Boiler Golf Outing at Purdue's Birk Boilermaker Golf Complex in West Lafayette.

Following that is the chapter's primary function, highlighting our scholar-athletes and award winners at the NFF Honors Dinner "Celebrating Our Legends XIII" on Sunday, June 11, at the Purdue Memorial Union Ballrooms in West Lafayette.

"MEET THE COACH" - FEB. 19

Purdue's new football coach and director of the athletics, Jeff Brohm and Mike Bobinski, respectively, the two men hired by President Mitch Daniels in late 2016 to bring Boilermaker football back to the top of the Big Ten Conference, will be available for a "meet and greet" at Big O's Sportsroom at Bruno's in West Lafayette.

The reception will be a free event for all high school coaches and current members of the NFF. Other fans and supporters are welcome to attend for a \$10 fee at the door. Anyone becoming a member or renewing his or her membership that day will also be admitted for free.

COLOR DODGEBALL – APR. 2

The Purdue Gold Standard, which promotes philanthropy and leadership, is looking to expand on the successes of the previous four Color Dodgeball events that were held in the fall of 2012 and the

springs of 2014, 2015 and 2016.

The highly-anticipated student-oriented contest primarily serves as a fund-raiser that benefits Purdue's Center for Cancer Research and the NFF Scholarship Fund. Gimlet and other student organizations will join the event with part of the proceeds going toward their charities of choice. It is a student-oriented, fun-filled afternoon that includes the dodgeball tournament loaded with powdered paint and featuring a trophy and medals for the winners. The event also features free food and giveaways.

Those interested in signing up can do so at www.nffillerchapter.org/pgs. The cost is \$10/person or \$50 for a team of six players. For more information, contact PGS Past-President Austin Hoefling at ahoefflin@purdue.edu.

GOLF OUTING – MAY 12

The eighth annual golf outing features Kerrigan, the former Boilermaker All-American and first round draft pick who was selected as a starter for the 2017 Pro Bowl. Many other former Purdue athletes and coaches are also invited to attend.

Several of the participants in the golf outing will be vendors, retailers and licensees of Purdue University, but there will be plenty of spaces available for NFF chapter members, students and the general public to take part. Cost is \$165 per player (\$75 for students), covering box lunch, golf cart, 18 holes of golf on the Kampen and recently-renovated Ackerman Hills Course and an informal reception featuring a few presentations at the Voinoff Pavilion following golf. The cost is \$15 less for those who cannot stay for the reception/dinner. Most of the proceeds from the event go toward the 12th Boiler Scholarship Fund and our NFF Scholarship Fund.

Contact Jim Vrugink (765-427-3303) for more information.

HONORS DINNER – JUNE 11

Highlighting the awards process for this chapter is our marquee event, the Honors Dinner "Celebrating Our Legends XIII" on June 11 at the Purdue Memorial Union.

Top scholar-athletes from throughout northern Indiana, who are nominated by their schools for our Scholar-Athlete of the Year Award, will be the high school guests of honor along with approximately

Continued on pg. 5

REMINDER:
Please nominate by March
31st for Chapter Awards
(see next page)

Awards for Joe Tiller Chapter of Northwest Indiana

HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLAR-ATHLETE AWARD

This annual award is intended to provide recognition to a graduating high school senior football player who exemplifies excellence as a student, an athlete and a citizen. Scholarship money from the National Football Foundation is provided to the winner as long as he is not receiving full athletic aid to attend the college of his choice. He is not required to continue his career as a football player.

Selection process: Nominations are accepted in early winter from high school coaches and/or administrators in the counties covered by this NFF chapter. Nominations are evaluated by the Scholar-Athlete Committee, which recommends at least one recipient per year. This recommendation must be ratified by the Board of Directors and the presentation should be made at the annual Honors Dinner.

- Other nominees will also be recognized at the Honors Dinner.
- 2003 Honorary S-A:** Clayton Richard of McCutcheon High School
- 2005 Honoree:** William Bowman of Lafayette Jefferson High School
- 2006 Honoree:** Brett Courtney of West Lafayette Harrison High School
- 2007 Honoree:** James Wodicka of West Lafayette High School
- 2008 Honoree:** Griffin Richeson of Lafayette Central Catholic High School
- 2009 Honoree:** *Matt Lancaster of West Lafayette High School
- 2010 Honoree:** *Daniel Wodicka of West Lafayette High School
- 2011 Honoree:** Alex Hegg of Seeger Memorial High School
- 2012 Honoree:** Dayton Snyder of West Lafayette High School
- 2013 Honoree:** #Ryan Spesard of Carroll High School
- 2014 Honoree:** *Andrew Ralph of Chesterton High School
- 2015 Honoree:** Joshua Brune of Belmont High School
- 2016 Honoree:** Cody Colbert of Tri-Central High School

* Also won Midwest S-A of Year Award; # Also won State S-A of Year Award

“PURDUE IS PROUD OF YOU” AWARD

This award is intended to provide recognition to a person from Purdue who is closely involved with the game of football and who has provided positive exposure for Purdue through his or her efforts, in a role other than being a player or coach. The recipient will have maintained a lifetime of interest in the football while exhibiting exceptional qualities in his or her profession or activity.

Selection process: Nominations are accepted throughout the year from NFF chapter members and considered by the Awards Committee, which recommends no more than one recipient per year. This recommendation must be ratified by the Board of Directors and presentation made at the annual Honors Dinner.

- 2011 Honoree:** Drew Brees, Sports Illustrated Sportsman of the Year
- 2012 Honoree:** Otis Armstrong, College Football Hall of Fame Selectee
- 2013 Honoree:** MerrieBeth Cox, Miss Indiana and Purdue’s Golden Girl

ARNETTE TILLER “SERVICE TO FOOTBALL” AWARD

This award, which is sponsored and funded by the IFCA, is intended to provide recognition to a woman closely related to the game of football who has given tirelessly and effectively for the betterment of the game and its participants. The recipient will have exhibited exceptional service and dedication to a football program covered by this NFF chapter.

Selection process: Nominations are accepted throughout the year from NFF chapter members and IFCA members and considered by the IFCA Awards Committee in conjunction with Mrs. Tiller and the NFF chapter, which recommends no more than one recipient per year. The presentation should be made at the annual Honors Dinner in the appropriate IFCA Region. It is recommended that this award be rotated between Region 1 (odd numbered years) and Region 4 (even numbered years).

- 2012 Honoree:** Arnette Tiller, wife of Coach Joe Tiller, Purdue University
- 2013 Honoree:** Jamie Marsh, wife of Coach Leroy Marsh, Munster HS
- 2015 Honoree:** Sarah Lim, 7-year student mgr, WLHS & Purdue University

NOMINATION FORM FOR 2017 AWARDS

(Submit by March 31, 2017, to Jim Vrugink via phone at 765-427-3303, email at jvrugink@purdue.edu or mail at 3672 Farnsworth Dr., West Lafayette, IN 47906)

Name of nominee _____

For which award? _____

Phone/address of nominee _____

Reasons for nomination _____

Your name _____

Phone or email _____

PATRICK MACKEY COURAGE AWARD

This award is given to provide recognition to an individual in our region who has exemplified great courage by surviving extreme personal hardship or difficulty OR who has assisted someone else in doing the same. The award-winner must be a high school, college or professional athlete, coach or administrator.

Selection process: Nominations are accepted in early winter from members of this chapter. Nominations are evaluated by the awards committee, which recommends no more than one recipient per year. This recommendation must be ratified by the Board of Directors and the presentation should be made at either Scholar-Athlete Banquet or the annual Honors Dinner.

- 2012 Honoree:** Danny Anthrop of Lafayette Central Catholic High School
- 2013 Honorees:** Cooper Fulmer of Winamac/Patrick Mackey of Lafayette Central Catholic High School
- 2014 Honoree:** Jack Folkers of West Lafayette High School
- 2016 Honoree:** Josh Turanchick of Oak Hill High School

BERNIE FLOWERS AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO AMATEUR FOOTBALL

This annual award is intended to provide recognition to an individual whose efforts and activities support the goals of the National Football Foundation on the local level. The award identifies an individual who works tirelessly out of love for football and a desire to help children play the game. The award winner can be a league organizer, administrator, fundraiser, coach, doctor, athletic trainer, official or anyone who excels in representing and supporting the foundation’s fundamental creed.

Selection process: Nominations are accepted throughout the year from NFF chapter members and considered by the Awards Committee, which recommends no more than one recipient per year. This recommendation must be ratified by the Board of Directors and the presentation should be made at the annual Honors Dinner.

- 2005 Honoree:** Kay Hunt of West Lafayette Little Gridiron Football League
- 2006 Honoree:** John Robinson of Lafayette 56ers Youth Football League
- 2007 Honoree:** Dr. Bob Hagen of Lafayette Orthopaedic and Sportsmedicine Clinic
- 2008 Honoree:** Brad Smith of Attica and Indiana Football Coaches Association
- 2009 Honoree:** Tom Kubat of Lafayette Journal & Courier Sports Department
- 2010 Honoree:** Joe McConnell of Learfield Sports and Purdue Radio Network
- 2011 Honorees:** Lane Custer and Jon Speaker of West Side Flag Football
- 2012 Honorees:** Clay and Chris Oppy of Dream Season
- 2013 Honoree:** Mark Ebelhar of West Lafayette Little Gridiron
- 2014 Honoree:** Linda Rohrman of Lafayette
- 2015 Honoree:** David M. Williams of Lafayette Area Little Gridiron
- 2016 Honoree:** Larry Leverenz, Eric Nauman and Tom Talavage of Purdue Neurotrauma Group

CITIZENSHIP AWARD

This annual award is given to provide recognition to an individual who has consistently excelled in three areas paramount to the National Football Foundation - academics, athletics and service - while maintaining an exemplary record of citizenship in his school and/or local community. The award-winner can be a high school, college or professional athlete.

Selection process: Nominations are accepted in early winter from members of this chapter. Nominations are evaluated by the awards committee, which recommends no more than one recipient per year. This recommendation must be ratified by the Board of Directors and the presentation should be made at either Scholar-Athlete Banquet or the annual Honors Dinner.

- 2011 Honoree:** Kyle Adams of Purdue University
- 2012 Honoree:** Kurt Lichtenberg of Purdue University
- 2014 Honoree:** Rob Henry of Purdue University

LEGENDS AWARD

This award is intended to provide recognition to a person closely related to the game of football who has given tirelessly and effectively throughout his or her career for the betterment of the game and its participants, without being a player or coach. The recipient will have maintained a lifetime of interest in the football while exhibiting exceptional leadership qualities in his or her profession and bringing recognition to the local area covered by this NFF chapter.

Selection process: Nominations are accepted throughout the year from NFF chapter members and considered by the Awards Committee, which recommends no more than one recipient per year. This recommendation must be ratified by the Board of Directors and the presentation should be made at the annual Honors Dinner.

Continued on pg. 3

Continued from pg. 2

2012 Honoree: Denny Miller, former head athletic trainer of Purdue University

2014 Honoree: Joe Rudolph, former executive dir. of Purdue Alumni Association

2015 Honoree: John Friend, former coach, athletics director, administrator in NW Indiana

2016 Honoree: Tom Spurgeon, former student manager, supporter and Trustee of Purdue

DREW BRES MENTAL TOUGHNESS AWARD

This annual award is intended to provide recognition to a college or professional athlete who exemplified exceptional mental attitude or toughness while competing within the counties covered by this NFF chapter. Exceptional mental attitude includes displays of high academic achievement, superior leadership, dogged determination, tenacity, moral character, bravery, humility and concern for others, in addition to remarkable athletic accomplishments. The award is named in honor of its first recipient, who also assists in the selection process.

Selection process: Nominations are accepted throughout the year from NFF chapter members and considered by the Awards Committee, which recommends no more than one recipient per year. This recommendation must be ratified by the Board of Directors and Drew Brees and presentation made at the Honors Dinner.

2005 Honoree: Drew Brees of the San Diego Chargers

2006 Honoree: Rob Ninkovich of the Purdue Boilermakers

2007 Honoree: Rosevelt Colvin of the New England Patriots

2008 Honoree: Nick Hardwick of the San Diego Chargers

2009 Honoree: Akin Ayodele of the Miami Dolphins

2011 Honoree: Ryan Kerrigan of the Washington Redskins

2012 Honoree: Robbie Hummel of the Purdue Boilermakers

2013 Honoree: Ryan Grigson of the Indianapolis Colts

2014 Honoree: Cliff Avril of the Seattle Seahawks

2015 Honoree: Kyle Orton of the Buffalo Bills

2016 Honoree: Danny Anthrop of the Indianapolis Colts

“HE PLAYED FOOTBALL” AWARD

This annual award is intended to provide recognition to a former football player in the geographic region of Northwest Indiana who went on to become highly successful in life-after-football. Emphasis is placed on individuals who were not necessarily stars of their teams but who built their later successes on their skills instead of their “football name.”

Selection process: Nominations are accepted throughout the year from NFF chapter members and considered by the Awards Committee, which recommends no more than one recipient per year. This recommendation must be ratified by the Board of Directors and presentation made at the annual Honors Dinner.

2014 Honoree: Francie Gutman, former Purdue quarterback and Director of Cleveland Eye Clinic

2015 Honoree: Carl Buegler, former Purdue walk-on quarterback, now COO of Jimmy Johns

2016 Honoree: Doug DeVos, former Purdue walk-on quarterback, now President of Amway Corp.

DISTINGUISHED AMERICAN AWARD

This annual award is intended to provide recognition to a citizen who has maintained a lifetime of interest in the game of football and who has exhibited enviable leadership qualities and patriotism while making a significant contribution to the betterment of amateur football or sports in general in the United States while bringing recognition to the local area covered by this NFF chapter.

Selection process: Nominations are accepted throughout the year from NFF chapter members and considered by the Awards Committee, which recommends no more than one recipient per year. This recommendation must be ratified by the Board of Directors and presentation made at the annual Honors Dinner.

2005 Honoree: Gene Keady, emeritus basketball coach of Purdue University

2006 Honoree: Bob DeMoss, former football coach/administrator at Purdue University

2007 Honoree: Henry Rosenthal, former play-by-play announcer/owner of WASK Radio

2008 Honoree: Bernie Flowers, Purdue All-American, sales extraordinaire

2009 Honoree: Joe Tiller, emeritus football coach of Purdue University

2011 Honoree: Leroy Keyes, former Purdue All-American/administrator

2013 Honorees: Noble Kizer and Noble Kizer, Jr., former football coach and athletic director at Purdue University and his son, Lafayette businessman

GOLD MEDALLION AWARD

This award is given on rare occasion and in special circumstances to recognize the career of a highly-successful person in this region. It recognizes an outstanding

Continued on pg. 5



CODY COLBERT (left) poses with his Scholar-Athlete of the Year trophy after receiving it last June from Miss Purdue Maureen Brooks and Nathan Baird of the Lafayette Journal & Courier sports staff. Colbert is now a freshman at Purdue and is serving as an intern with the Joe Tiller Chapter of the NFF. (photo by: Sandra Dukes)

Executive Director's Report 2016:

CHAPTER CONTINUES FOCUS ON STABILITY FOR GOOD OF ATHLETES, COACHES, CHARITIES IN OUR REGION

As we conclude our 12th year of existence as a chapter of the National Football Foundation, the attention of our Board of Advisors is on the future.

With president Kelly Kitchel at the reins, the focus is to continue developing our long-range plan for chapter stability, both in terms of financial support and leadership. Secondly, it is important to the board to continue honoring and recognizing scholar-athletes, former athletes and coaches. And, thirdly, the chapter will continue to support charitable causes (including our own leadership scholarship programs) in this region, especially within Tippecanoe County, where most of the fund-raising takes place.

While our chapter's financial status remains healthy (see paragraph below), we saw a mild drop in donations, contributions and advertising sales in 2016 along with a continuing decline in tickets sales for our events. As a result, our scholarship commitment for this year again was reduced. The board wants to place an emphasis this next year (and for several years to come) on fund-raising with the goal of establishing an endowment to help assure long-term stability. An initial mailing/email blast in late December address that and we are hoping that you will respond favorably by helping out in any way that you can.

Our membership is still fairly strong (152 at last count in November) which ranks us largest in Indiana among the four chapters and seventh in the country among 120. We have a terrific board and many effective committee members, so there are probably other chapter members ready to step forward. Please contact me (via email jvruggink@purdue.edu or phone 765-427-3303), if you would like to help.

Our 12th annual NFF Honors Dinner “Celebrating Our Legends” on June 10 was a success, but it drew one of our smallest crowds (320), down considerably from our previous years. Also last spring, May 6 to be exact, we had 72 golfers participating in the Ryan Kerrigan/12th Boiler Golf Outing, sponsored jointly by the NFF and Purdue's Trademark Licensing Office at the Birk Boilermaker Golf Complex.

Total chapter income this year (not including some donations for our scholarship endowment), through the end of December, is \$47,150, a decrease of about \$2,000 over last year's total and about \$42,000 less than our high-water mark of six years ago. After paying all expenses, our total distribution to charity and scholarship recipients for this year will be nearly \$15,000, raising our 12-year total to about \$265,000.

Through our first 12 years as a chapter, we have honored 309 individuals for their accomplishments, including 228 scholar-athletes who have been awarded a total of more than \$200,000 in scholarships and honorariums for college.

Special thanks again this year goes to Purdue student Travis Baugh, one of our NFF interns, a member of the Purdue Gold Standard and a member of our board, for his exceptional work. Check out some of his efforts and the updated information on our website at www.nfftillerchapter.org.

We greatly appreciate the continued support of ALL our members.

SUBMITTED BY: Jim Vruggink, Executive Director

HONORS DINNER FEATURES SEVERAL PRESENTATIONS

Continued from pg. 1

eight or nine specialty award winners. Highlights of the event will be the induction of at least two former football players or coaches into the Indiana Football Hall of Fame. That selection process is still under way.

The special attraction for this year's Honors Dinner will be the attendance of several (hopefully all) of Purdue's former players who have been inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame. The list of those still alive include Leroy Keyes, Bob Griese, Mike Phipps, Mark Herrmann, Otis Armstrong, Dave Butz and Rod Woodson.

Additional details will be announced in March.

LAST YEAR'S HONORS DINNER

At last June's Honors Dinner, Cody Colbert of Tri-Central High School was honored as the chapter's Scholar-Athletes of the Year before a crowd of 320 football enthusiasts.

Colbert, who is now a Purdue student and an intern for the NFF chapter, was chosen from an initial group of 14 high school football standouts, that was narrowed down to six finalists by our panel of judges. The scholar-athletes had been nominated by their coaches.

Judging was based 40 percent on academics, 40 percent on athletics and 20 percent on citizenship, leadership and character.

Besides Colbert, the 2016 scholar-athletes' names and high schools were: Garrett Clark (Delphi Community), Devon Colonis (Lafayette Jefferson), Brady Decker (North Newton), Jack Folkers (West Lafayette), Melee Jackson (East Chicago Central), David Kostbade (Hobart), Patrick Marsh (Munster), Kordell Prescott (Peru), Ethan Schrader (Lafayette Central Catholic), Maverick Schultz (Winamac Community), Garritt Slatcoff (Chesterton), J. Dan Sturgeon (Harison) and Josh Turanchick (Oak Hill).

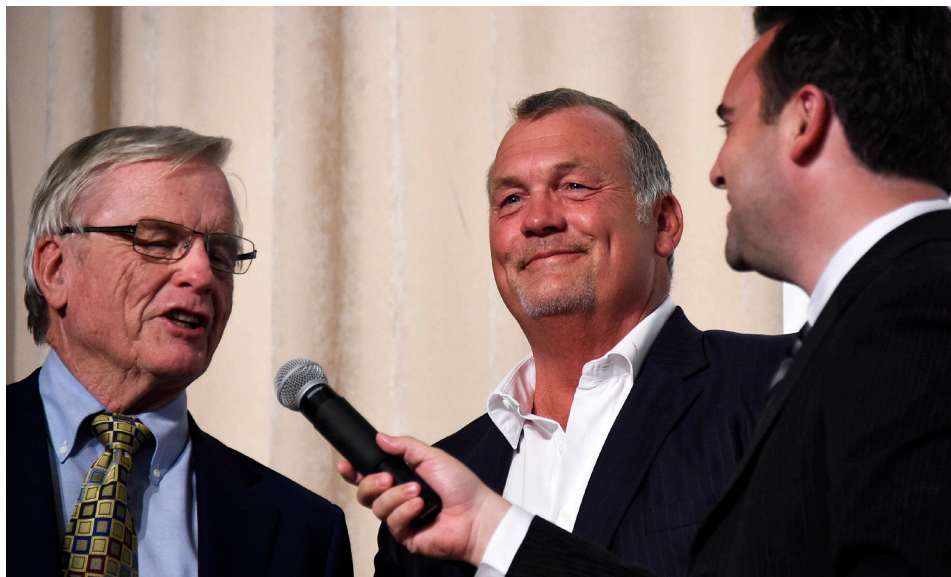
Those 14 scholar-athletes were all high school seniors who are in college now. Academically, it was an outstanding group. Four of the 14 had 4.0 grade point averages or better, eight were ranked among the top 10 percent in their senior classes and two were valedictorians at their schools. Their collective grade point average was 3.66.

CODY'S CREDENTIALS

Colbert's credentials were impressive. He graduated third in his class with a weighted GPA of 4.16 and is now studying agricultural business at Purdue. He was named to the IFCA Academic All-State Team and was a two-time all-state running back (2014 and 2015) as he helped Tri-Central to a state title (2013) and a combined record of 45-6 as a four-year starter. He set school records in career rushing (3,916 yards), all-purpose yardage (4,383) and points scored (266). He also participated in basketball, baseball and track, winning a total of 10 varsity letters. Cody was also class president and was involved in 4-H, Food Pantry, Tipton County Pork Festival and the Indiana House of Representatives as a page.

The Honors Dinner crowd also paid tribute to the high school players and managers chosen from Regions 1 and 4 to compete on the North Squad in the annual North-South All-Star Game last summer in Indianapolis. Eight were present and introduced on stage.

Darrell Hazell, Purdue's head football coach at the time, and Maureen Brooks, the reigning Miss Purdue, were also part of the program as was vocal standout



JIM YOUNG (left) and PETE QUINN (center) are interviewed on stage by emcee Nate Barrett during the NFF Honors Dinner last June following the induction ceremonies for Young and Quinn's entrance into the Indiana Football Hall of Fame. Young is a former Purdue head coach and Quinn is a former four-year starting center and long-time member of the Purdue Football Radio Network. (photo by: Sandra Duker)

Karli Edging, a Purdue student from nearby Delphi, who performed for the fourth straight NFF Honors Dinner.

INDIANA FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME

But, the highlight of the night, in conjunction with the Indiana Football Coaches Association, was the Indiana Hall of Fame Inductions of Pete Quinn and Jim Young. They were presented by previous inductees Bart Burrell and Mark Herrmann, known as the "Carmel Connection" as the lethal passing combination for both Carmel High School and Purdue during the mid-to-late 1970's and early '80's. Former Purdue All-America running back Otis Armstrong was scheduled to receive the plaque for his 2015 induction at the same event, but was unable to attend due to a death in the family.

Quinn, a 1981 Purdue grad, was the starting center for a four-year run of Boilermaker football that was among the best ever, amassing a record of 33-13-1, including 23-8-1 in the Big Ten, from 1977-80 for quarterback Herrmann. Quinn was voted the greatest center in the first 100 years of Purdue football. He was also a three-year starter at Secina High School in Indianapolis. Pete has enjoyed a highly-successful career in real estate while serving as color analyst on the Purdue Radio Network for 25 years. He called his 300th game last fall.

Young, a 1956 graduate of Bowling Green State, was the head coach at Purdue for five years (record of 38-19-1), including all of Quinn's years, and spent a total of six years at Purdue, where he was also an associate athletic director for one year. He posted winning records at Arizona and Army and had a collective record of 120-71-2 in 18 years as a head coach. He had a 5-1 record in bowl games and was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 1999. Jim also served as an assistant coach for 12 years of his career and was the "acting" head coach for Michigan in the 1970 Rose Bowl.

The Tiller Chapter will try to recognize Armstrong this year. The record-setting back for Purdue in the early 1970's now lives in Centennial, Colo.,

near Denver where he played professionally for the Broncos. He was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 2012.

CHAPTER AWARDS

Prior to the Hall of Fame presentations, the Honors Dinner program recognized several other awards, including:

- Bernie Flowers Award for Outstanding Contribution to Amateur Football to Larry Leverenz, Eric Nauman and Tom Talavage,
- "He Played Football" Award to Doug DeVos,
- Legends Award to Tom Spurgeon,
- Drew Brees Mental Toughness Award to Danny Anthrop,
- And Patrick Mackey Courage Award to Josh Turanchick

Leverenz, Nauman and Talavage are three Purdue researchers who are leading a major study on concussions and brain damage in an effort to create safer playing conditions for football players at all levels. They received the award that was created to recognize outstanding contributions to amateur football and named after All-America receiver Bernie Flowers, who played at Purdue in the early 1950's and enjoyed a long career in business.

DeVos, a former walk-on quarterback at Purdue, is now President of Amway International; Spurgeon, a former football manager who went on to own his own business, is a 10-year member of the University's Board of Trustees, and a recent chairman of the board; Anthrop showed great mental toughness in battling back from injuries and signed on last spring as a free agent with the Indianapolis Colts; and Turanchick exhibited outstanding courage in overcoming his physical difficulties as a child to emerge as an accomplished football player.

\$200,000 AND COUNTING ...

Since receiving its charter in the fall of 2004, as a non-profit organization, this chapter has awarded more than \$200,000 in grants, scholarships and

Continued on pg. 5

JEFF BROHM BRINGS EXCITING OFFENSE

Continued from pg. 1

offense (No. 4 in 2014, No. 9 in 2015 and No. 7 in 2016) each of his three seasons.

At the same time, the Hilltoppers improved their scoring defense from 121st nationally in 2014 (39.9) to 39th in 2016 (24.1), their total defense from 120th (509.9) to 37th (367.8) and their rushing defense from 111th (220.8) to fourth (99.1).

A 14-year collegiate coaching veteran, Brohm served as an assistant coach at Louisville (quarterbacks 2003-06, assistant head coach/passing game 2007, assistant head coach/offensive coordinator 2008), Florida Atlantic (quarterbacks 2009), Illinois (quarterbacks 2010-11), UAB (offensive coordinator/quarterbacks 2012) and Western Kentucky (assistant head coach/offensive coordinator/quarterbacks 2013). He began his career as the head coach of the Louisville Fire in the af2 in 2002.

Brohm enjoyed an outstanding collegiate career as a quarterback at Louisville from 1989 to 1993. A three-year starter, he ranks among the Cardinals' career leaders in touchdown passes (sixth, 38), total offense (seventh, 5,410), completion percentage (eighth, .562), passing yards (eighth, 5,451), passing efficiency (eighth, 129.97), passing attempts (ninth, 715) and completions (ninth, 402).

Brohm also played two seasons of minor league baseball in the Cleveland Indians' organization, as an outfielder with the Burlington Indians of the Appalachian League (Rookie) in 1990 and the Watertown Indians of the New York-Penn League (Class A) in 1991.

Brohm played seven seasons in the National Football League with the San Diego Chargers (1994), Washington Redskins (1995-96), San Francisco 49ers (1997-98), Tampa Bay Buccaneers (1998), Denver Broncos (1999) and Cleveland Browns (2000). In eight career games - all with the 49ers - he completed 37-of-58 passes (63.8 percent) for 353 yards with one touchdown and one interception. In 2001, Brohm played in the XFL for the Orlando Rage and was named first team All-XFL.

Brohm was a standout player at Trinity High School in Louisville. He won the Kentucky Mr. Football Award as a senior in 1988 while leading the Shamrocks to a state championship and undefeated season. Brohm was named the Kentucky High School Player of the Decade for the 1980s and was inducted into the Kentucky High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame in 2014.

A native of Louisville, Brohm (born April 24, 1971) earned his bachelor's degree in business administration in 1994. He and his wife, Jennifer, have a son, Brady, and a daughter, Brooke. Jeff is one of four family members to be a football letterwinner at Louisville, along with his father, Oscar (quarterback 1966-69), and younger brothers, Greg (wide receiver 1989-92) and Brian (quarterback 2004-07). The Brohm family, including mother, Donna, and sister, Kim, was inducted into the Louisville Catholic Sports Hall of Fame in 2013.



JEFF BROHM (second from right) speaks during the Dec. 5 press conference announcing him as Purdue's new head football coach. He is joined by Associate Athletics Director Tom Schott (far left), Director of Intercollegiate Athletics Mike Bobinski (second from left) and Purdue President Mitch Daniels (far right).

(photo by: Tom Campbell)

Continued from pg. 4

honorariums to students plus another \$70,000 to other charities in the region.

In its first 12 years, this chapter has recognized 228 prep scholar athletes, inducted 11 former coaches and players into the Indiana Football Hall of Fame, helped to place six Boilermakers into the College Football Hall of Fame and honored 64 members of our community and beyond with special awards.

In addition to seeking donations and sponsorships to support the scholarship program, the chapter also receives money (\$500 for every 50 dues-paying members in the local chapter) from the national office in Irving, Tex.

The NFF's tax-deductible membership dues are \$40 per year or \$99 for three years, payable to the National Football Foundation. The NFF has 120 chapters and more than 12,000 members, nationally,

and awards more than \$1.3 million in scholarships each year.

TICKETS/SPONSORSHIPS

Table prices for the 2017 Honors Dinner are the same as last year for a table of eight (\$400 for general public, \$320 for NFF chapter members and honorees' families, and \$280 for students). Single tickets are \$60 for public, \$50 for members and \$40 for students.

Pricing on sponsorships and advertising are the same as in 2016.

For more information, contact Vruggink at 3672 Farnsworth Drive, West Lafayette, IN 47906; (email: jvuggink@purdue.edu; phone: 765-427-3303).

CHAPTER AWARDS CONTINUED...

Continued from pg. 3

American and/or loyal Hoosier who has achieved significant career success while demonstrating integrity and honesty and bringing recognition to the local area covered by this NFF chapter.

Selection process: Nominations are accepted throughout the year from NFF chapter members and considered by the Awards Committee, which recommends no more than one recipient per year. This recommendation must be ratified by the Board of Directors and presentation made at the annual Honors Dinner.

2007 Honoree: Dr. Martin Jischke, President of Purdue University

2010 Honorees: Drew Brees, Len Dawson, Bob Griese - Purdue's Super Bowl Champion QB's

2011 Honorees: Neil Armstrong, Eugene Cernan, Jerry Ross - Purdue Astronauts

2013 Honoree: David Boudia, Olympic Gold and Bronze Medalist in diving

Upcoming Events:

Feb. 19, 2017 - "Meet The Coach" Reception at Bruno's Restaurant, West Lafayette

Apr. 2, 2017 - Purdue Color Dodgeball Tournament, Rec Field, West Lafayette

May 12, 2017 - Ryan Kerrigan 12th Boiler Golf Outing, Purdue Golf Complex, West Lafayette

June 11, 2017 - NFF Honors Dinner, Purdue Memorial Union, West Lafayette

Sept. 8, 2017 - Purdue Football Home Opener vs. Ohio University, Ross-Ade Stadium, West Lafayette

NFF Advisory Board & Committee Members for 2017

PRESIDENT – Kelly Kitchel

BOARD OF DIRECTORS –

PAST PRESIDENT – Bart Burrell

TREASURER – Janet Schweikher

TILLER DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP

CHAIR – David McGaughey

LAKE MICHIGAN DISTRICT MEMBER-

SHIP CHAIR – John Friend

COLLEGIATE PROGRAM CHAIR – Tom

Schott

SCHOLAR-ATHLETE PROGRAM

CHAIR– Randy Truitt

YOUTH FOOTBALL PROGRAM CHAIR

– Max Bales

SPECIAL CHARITIES CHAIR – TBD

EVENTS CHAIR – Nate Barrett and Brooke Kitchel

COMMUNICATIONS CHAIR – Alan Karpick and Travis Baugh

AT-LARGE – Joe Bennett, Orlando Itin, Bob Hagen, Jeff Love, Chris Oppy, Brad Smith, Jon Speaker, David R. Williams

ADDITIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Erika Austin, Rachel Blankenship, Drew Brees, Don Collier, Aaron Cooke, Sandra Dukes, Dwayne Greer, Paul Griggs, Andy Hosier, Leroy Keyes, Noble Kizer, Tom Kubat, John Langenkamp, Young Lee, Jim MacDonald, Leroy Marsh, Noah Mattern, Marshall Overley, Andrew Pogar, Jim Priest, Cindy Robertson, Tim Roth, John Sauter, Adam Scott, Calvin Williams, George Wodicka

INTERNS:

Cody Colbert, Brady Decker, Alexa Goodman, Austin Hoefling, Hannah Quinn, Ryan Spesard and members of Purdue Gold Standard

CHAPTER DIRECTOR – Alan Karpick
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR – Jim Vruggink
NEWSLETTER DESIGNER – Jonathan Gandolf
SALES MANAGER – Travis Baugh
WEBMASTER – Travis Baugh

CONTACT US: Via phone at 765-427-3303, via email at jvuggink@purdue.edu, or via postal at NFF, 3672 Farnsworth Drive, West Lafayette, IN 47906

CHAPTER ESTABLISHES GOALS FOR SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT

The NFF's Joe Tiller Chapter of Northwest Indiana has established a goal of trying to raise \$500,000 to initiate a scholarship endowment that will hopefully support the scholarship commitments for this chapter for many years to come.

Scholarships would be awarded (or at least supplemented) through the annual interest earned from the endowment. Depending on interest rates, it is hoped the fund could generate approximately \$25,000 per year.

In its first 12 years of existence, the chapter has awarded more than \$200,000 in scholarship assistance and honorariums for students. That money has been raised through donations, sponsorships, advertising in the annual NFF Honors Dinner program and a series of fund-raising events (golf outings, concerts, dodgeball tournaments, silent auctions and raffles).

"Raising enough money through the endowment to offset our scholarship commitments each year would be a tremendous relief for the chapter's next executive director," says Jim Vruggink, the executive director since the chapter started in 2004. "The fact that we've distributed more than \$200,000 in our first 12 years as a chapter is indeed a great tribute to the generosity of our football fans in Northwest Indiana, but generating the funds to keep that pattern going is an ever-growing challenge from year to year. Having a consistent stream of funds flowing from an endowment program, would be a huge benefit."

For additional information about the endowment efforts, please see page 7 of this document.

PLEASE
REMEMBER
TO RENEW
YOUR NFF
MEMBERSHIP
WHEN IT
COMES DUE



ONLINE AUCTION OFFERS RARE AUTOGRAPHED "CRADLE OF QB" POSTER

A 24 X 34 inch framed poster featuring Purdue's famed "Cradle of Quarterback," autographed by all 12 of the signal callers, is now available for auction on the chapter's website.

The poster, shown above, includes action photos and authentic signatures of the men who make up one of college football's most famous traditions. Members of Purdue's elite "Cradle of Quarterbacks" are Bob DeMoss, Dale Samuels, Len Dawson, Bob Griese, Mike Phipps, Gary Danielson, Mark Herrmann, Scott Campbell, Jim Everett, Drew Brees, Kyle Orton and Curtis Painter.

Bidding will run through the end of May and all proceeds from the auction will go into the chapter's scholarship endowment fund. To join the auction, go online to www.nffillerchapter.org and click on AUCTION on the menu line of the homepage.



NATIONAL FOOTBALL
FOUNDATION

Joe Tiller Chapter of Northwest Indiana

Kelly Kitchel, President
kellykitchel@yahoo.com • 765/412-7215

Jim Vrugink, Executive Director
jvruggink@purdue.edu • 765/427-3303

January 2017

**Greetings! ... Members, Sponsors and Friends
of the Joe Tiller Chapter of Northwest Indiana:**

Success stories fill our chapter's history. Among them: the scholar-athletes supported by our chapter who have become doctors, dentists, CIA agents, engineers, businessmen, coaches, graduate students and outstanding members of their communities.

They have made their families, their schools and our chapter members and supporters proud.

Our Scholar-Athletes of the Year are chosen using this criteria:

- Academic achievement: 40%
- Football performance and attitude: 40%
- Leadership and citizenship: 20%

A few highlights of our scholarship program:

- We offer money for college scholarships to students at **70 Indiana high schools**.
- These schools are in 17 Northwest Indiana counties, from Tippecanoe to Lake.
- In the 12 years since our chapter's founding, **we have honored 228 scholar-athletes** at our annual NFF Honors Dinners
- Scholarship **awards have surpassed \$200,000** total.

That's what we call a touchdown! The money has come from chapter revenues, member contributions and sponsorships. Now, we'd like that score to reach even higher, and we'd like to ensure the permanence of our scholarship program.

To do that, our chapter is kicking off a campaign to raise funds for a scholarship endowment. We need your help. Money raised will be placed in the endowment and held forever, making your gift a lasting one, indeed. The money will be wisely invested by our national organization, and proceeds earned will help fund chapter scholarships. This way, we create an ongoing source for scholarship assistance.

Please consider making a lasting investment in our student-athletes. You believe in them, and helping them achieve their potential is a big win—for them, for our communities, for you as a donor and for our chapter.

Questions? Email or call one of us; our contact information is at the top of the page.

Please send your most generous contribution today. Make your check payable to the **National Football Foundation**, noting in the memo line: NFF Tiller/NW Indiana Chapter Endowment. Mail it to:

Jim Vrugink
NFF Joe Tiller/NW Indiana Chapter
3672 Farnsworth Drive
West Lafayette, IN 47906

With great gratitude,

Kelly Kitchel, President
Jim Vrugink, Executive Director



NATIONAL FOOTBALL FOUNDATION

433 Las Colinas Blvd. East, Ste. 1130
Irving, TX 75039-5508

Membership Application

I am a: New Member Renewing Member Date:

Chapter Name (if known): Member ID#:

Prefix & Full Name:

Address:

City: State: Zip:

E-Mail: Phone:

Membership Level

VARSAITY CLUB

\$40 One-Year Membership

ALL-CONFERENCE CLUB

\$99 Three-Year Membership

HALL OF FAME CLUB

\$1,000 Lifetime Membership

PAYMENT OPTIONS

- Enclosed is my check for \$_____made payable to The National Football Foundation.
 Please charge my membership to my: VISA MASTERCARD AMEX DISCOVER

Credit Card Account #:

Exp. Date:

Signature:

(Please indicate cc billing address
if different than above)

BENEFITS WAIVER (for Hall of Fame Club members only)

- I prefer to waive all benefits offered at my gift level, rendering my entire contribution tax deductible.

Please Mail to: Membership Department
The National Football Foundation
433 Las Colinas Blvd. East, Ste. 1130
Irving, TX 75039-5508

OR Submit via: Email: membership@footballfoundation.com Fax: 972-556-9032