



ALL-AMERICANS, HALL OF FAMERS & HEROES FEATURED AT HONORS BRUNCH & RECEPTION

JUNE 25 – NFF HONORS BRUNCH
AUG. 31/SEPT. 1 – NFF HONORS RECEPTION
SEPT. 1 – TYLER TRENT GOLF OUTING

National heroes, Hall of Famers, All-Americans and scholar-athletes will be honored and recognized at various times and places this year as the National Football Foundation's Joe Tiller Chapter of Northwest Indiana celebrates a star-studded lineup in 2023.

Continuing with its emphasis of providing recognition for scholar-athletes and community members who support them and to raise funds for charities.

While fund-raising is an ongoing project, the NFF Honors Brunch "Celebrating Our Legends XIX" on June 25 at the Purdue Memorial Union Ballrooms in West Lafayette is our feature event. The NFF Honors Reception on Aug. 31 at a location yet to be determined, the Tyler Trent Golf Outing on Sept. 1 at Coyote Crossing Golf Club in West Lafayette. Other events are still being considered.

The June 25 event will focus on 12 NFF scholar-athletes who were nominated by their schools throughout Northwest Indiana for the annual Scholar-Athlete of the Year Award and 33 Lafayette Journal & Courier student-athletes nominated by high school athletics directors in the J&C coverage area. Also being honored are 14 J&C sport-by-sport players of the year selected by the J&C sports staff and 61 Indiana Football Coaches Association North All-Star nominees from Regions 1 and 4. Personalized certificates will be presented to each of these prep athletes who attends the Honors Brunch.

Along with the awards and recognition for the high school athletes, the Tiller Chapter will also present 11 other awards, nominated and selected by chapter members and various entities, to recognize outstanding accomplishments in our communities. Some of these presentations will occur June 25 while others, including one or two Hall of Fame recognitions, will take place at the NFF's Honors Reception in conjunction with the Tyler Trent Golf Outing.

The entire list of awards are as follows:

- J&C Female & Male Student-Athletes of the Year – **To Be Announced**
- NFF Chapter Scholar-Athlete of the Year – **To Be Announced**
- Citizen/Heroes Award – **Nick Bostic**
- Arnette Tiller Service to Football Award – **Elisheba VanWinkle**
- Todd Clark Outstanding Game Official Award – **James Marshall**
- Bernie Flowers Contribution to Amateur Sports Award – **Mike Bauer**
- Leroy Keyes Legends Award – **Nancy Cross**
- Purdue For Life Impact Award – **Charlie Jones & Aidan O'Connell**
- Patrick Mackey Courage Award – **Ashlynn Brooke & Kendal Rider**

- Tyler Trent Courage and Resilience Award – **Andrew Kinder**
- Distinguished American Award – **Drew Brees**
- Drew Brees Mental Toughness Award – **Zach Edey**
- Indiana Football Hall of Fame Inductees:
Todd Clark (June - posthumously)
Ryan Kerrigan (June)
Tom Kubat (June)
Chris Meeks (June)
Curtis Painter (June)
Clayton Richard (Winter)
John Scheumann (TBD - posthumously)
Drew Brees (TBD in 2023 or 2024)

The NFF scholar-athletes' names and high schools, as nominated by their schools, are: Isaiah Fowler (Chesterton), Luke Foxworthy (Fountain Central), Camden Horner (Kokomo), Kameron Little (McCutcheon), James Mantel (Andrean), Brady Miller (Lafayette Central Catholic), Matthew Richardson (West Lafayette), James Schemerhorn (Tri-County), Justin Schroeder (Frontier), Kyle Turanchick (Oak Hill), Jacob Walters (Harrison) and Joshua White (Lafayette Jefferson).

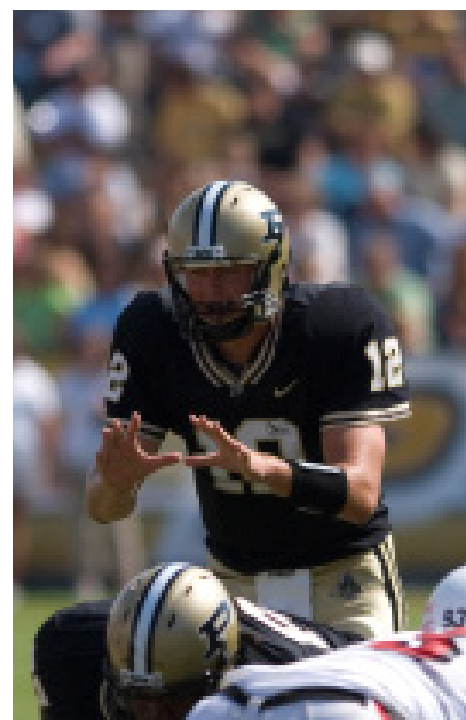
The Journal & Courier Female Nominees for

Student-Athlete of the Year are: Teegan Bacon (North Montgomery), Sydney Copeland (McCutcheon), Lexi Cunningham (North Newton), Halle Elliott (Crawfordsville), Riley Flinn (Harrison), Corryn Geheb (Roseville), Ava Hallberg (West Lafayette), Hannah Hodgen (Twin Lakes), Alli Holder (Faith Christian), Emma Pillion (Frankfort), Jannell Robson (Benton Central), Sydney Swan (Clinton Prairie), Emma Voors (Tri-County) and Avah Watson (Seeger).

The Journal & Courier Male Nominees for Student-Athlete of the Year are: Evan Cooke (West Lafayette), Cale Coursey (Crawfordsville), Jordan Cree (Rensselaer Central), Luke Deno (Twin Lakes), Owen Duff (Carroll), Cale Ehlinger (North Newton), Luke Foxworthy (Fountain Central), Gabe Freeman (Rossville), Gage Galloway (North Montgomery), Ben Henderson (Harrison), Landon Hughes (Clinton Prairie), Andrew Johns (Faith Christian), Chase Long (Delphi), Owen Kottkamp (Benton Central), Noah Oilar (Tri-County), Quentey Perry (Frankfort), Zion Rodriguez (West Central), Ryan Schummer (Lafayette Central Catholic) and Eli Swank (McCutcheon).

The Journal & Courier Players of the Year are: Addie Bowsman (Twin Lakes/basketball), Evan Cooke (West Lafayette/soccer), Chloe Chicoine

Continued on pg. 4



RYAN KERRIGAN AND CURTIS PAINTER – Both will be inducted into the Indiana Football Hall of Fame at the NFF Honors Brunch on June 25 at the Purdue Memorial Union Ballrooms.



SUPER BOWL CELEBRATION – West Lafayette’s Karlaftis Family celebrated the Kansas City Chiefs 2023 Super Bowl Championship as former WLHS and Purdue University star George Karlaftis kisses the prized trophy flanked to the left by brother Niko and to the right by girlfriend Kaia Harris, brother Yanni and sister Annie. Mom Amy took the picture.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND TO HONOR 3RD NFF PRESIDENT, DR. HAGEN

In honor of the life, dedication and accomplishments of Dr. Robert Hagen, the Tiller chapter’s third president, who died unexpectedly in March of 2022, Bob’s wife Debbie has decided to start a scholarship fund in his honor.

The scholarships will be for scholar-athletes within the Tiller Chapter’s 17 counties of Northwest Indiana for use in their second semester of college.

Dr. Hagen had succeeded Kelly Kitchel in the presidential role in November of 2021 after the former Purdue football player stepped aside due to expanded roles with his career. Hagen, who had served the Tiller Chapter as a chairman of the Scholar-Athlete of the Year selection process for 15 years, had recently retired as one of the top orthopedic surgeons in Indiana and had served previously as the chairman of the United Way Campaign for Tippecanoe County. He died while attending a medical conference in Chicago.

As chapter president, Hagen was making it his priority to focus on the board’s goal of expanding the Joe Tiller Scholarship Endowment to \$500,000 to provide future funding for scholarships.

According to Mrs. Hagen’s funding letter, “One

of the chapter’s donors will provide a matching gift of \$10,000 and beyond to start the Dr. Hagen Endowment, if we can raise that amount from other donors and friends. Please consider making a gift to honor Bob. The gift can be an outright contribution, a pledge over the next three years (completed by the end of 2025), cash or securities ... many options to make it as easy as possible for you and your family.”

Something potential donors might want to keep in mind is the benefit of doing an IRA Rollover or QCD. If a donor is 73 or older, he/she can roll over up to \$100,000 for an IRA to the NFF’s Joe Tiller Chapter (a 501 c-3 foundation) without paying federal income tax. Even better, the gift qualifies toward their required minimum distribution (RMD).

The benefits include: reduced taxable income, possible reduction in taxes due on social security benefits, charitable gift benefits and satisfaction in participating in a great scholarship endowment that helps encourage academic success for future leaders.

For general questions or more information, please contact Jim Vruggink by email (jvruggink@purdue.edu) or phone (765-427-3303). Or, contact an attorney for applicability to your own situation.

TYLER TRENT GOLF OUTING SET FOR SEPT. 1 AT COYOTE CROSSING

The NFF Tiller Chapter’s third annual Tyler Trent Golf Outing will take place Friday Sept. 1 at Coyote Crossing Golf Club near West Lafayette.

Chapter members will be given first opportunity to sign up as players, foursomes and sponsors when the first event flyers are distributed by email within a few weeks.

This event, like the first two, will benefit the Purdue Institute for Cancer Research, and will feature a member of Purdue’s Cradle of Quarterbacks. This time it will be Curtis Painter, who piled up 11,163 yards passing and 67 touchdowns in three years as Purdue’s starter. Last year Kyle Orton was at Coyote Crossing and in 2021 Jim Everett participated in the T2 Golf Outing. All three Boilemaker stars were invited to take part in connection with their induction into the Indiana Football Hall of Fame.

The owners of Coyote Crossing, Torrin and Robin Bottrell, are committed to making this year’s Tyler

Trent Golf Outing the biggest and best yet.

“We’ve seen this outing from our backyard and in the process got to know the Tony and Kelly Trent,” says Robin. “What started as a casual meeting and a few adult beverages has turned into a true friendship. Getting to know these wonderful people, and learning their story first hand, gave us all we needed to join them in their fight to find a cure for the cancer that took Tyler way before his time.”

“They are using their personal tragedy to help others, and we are elated to be able to help them in the process,” says Torrin. “We hope to take the T2 Outing to the next level, and with the help of our Director of Club Operations, Brent Wills, we will make it happen. We look for the support of the Purdue family, the Joe Tiller Chapter of the NFF and the Coyote Crossing membership to make this the best year ever!”

Prices for the Tyler Trent Golf Outing will remain

the same in 2023 as the first two years -- \$150 per person/\$600 for a foursome and \$200 for a hole sponsorship. In the first two years of involvement with the Trent Family, the Tiller Chapter has generated \$18,300 for cancer research through these golf outings. If you are a golfer, please save that date and join the effort.



NFF ADVISORY BOARD & COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR 2023

PRESIDENT – Alan Karpick
 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR – Jim Vruggink
 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SELECT – Tom Schott
 DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR and WEB-MASTER – Travis Baugh
 NEWSLETTER PRODUCTION MANAGER – Jonathan Gandolf
 PHOTOGRAPHERS – Sandra Dukes, Marion Vruggink and Chad Krockover
 BOARD OF DIRECTORS (Voting Members, * except for executive director) –
 PRESIDENT – Alan Karpick
 PAST PRESIDENTS – Bart Burrell, Kelly Kitchel
 TREASURER – Paul Branham; assistant Janet Schweikher
 SECRETARY – Elisheba VanWinkle
 AT-LARGE – Chad Krockover, Orlando Itin and

Jeff Love
 AUCTIONS & SALES CO-CHAIRS – Young Lee, Jim Samuel and Baugh (*)
 AWARDS PROGRAM CHAIR – Vruggink (*); assistants Karpick, Matt Lancaster, Clayton Richard, Schott and Jon Speaker
 COMMUNICATIONS CO-CHAIRS – Karpick and Schott, assistant Sam King
 ENDOWMENT CO-CHAIRS – Karpick and Vruggink (*); assistants Max Bales, Kelly Kitchel, Love and David R. Williams
 EVENTS CO-CHAIRS – Baugh (*), Austin Hoefling and Vruggink (*); assistants Branham (*), Nate Barrett, Samuel and Rex Trautman
 MEMBERSHIP CHAIR – David McGaughey; assistants Eddie Keister, Lancaster and Leroy Marsh
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assistants Samuel and Trautman
 SPONSORSHIPS & ADVERTISING CO-CHAIR – Baugh (*) and Vruggink (*); assistants Tim Bobillo, Trent Johnson, Samuel and Trautman
 MEMBERS SERVING ON COMMITTEES:
 Zander Atwood, Drew Brees, Don Collier, Patrick Crawford, Dwayne Greer, Judy Hanna, Joe Hernandez, Tim House, Adam Kuffner, Jaylyn Learnard, Mark Peterson, Ron Tipton, Craig Voll and George Wodicka
 INTERNS:
 Tate Drone, Patrick Kiefer, Ben Riggins and Tressa Senesac
 CONTACT US: Via phone at 765-427-3303, via email at jvruggink@purdue.edu, or via postal at NFF, 3672 Farnsworth Drive, West Lafayette, IN 47906

THIS IS

PURDUE

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CELEBRATING OUR LEGENDS XIX

NFF Honors Brunch - June 25
and Honors Reception - Aug. 31 or Sept. 1



NATIONAL FOOTBALL FOUNDATION



Edey

Jones

O'Connell

IF YOU CAN'T
ATTEND HONORS
BRUNCH, PLEASE
CONSIDER GIFT FOR
SCHOLARSHIPS

Knowing that many of our chapter members and usual attendees at our NFF Honors Dinner/Brunch may have conflicts with vacation plans or other events, we want to encourage you to support our events in different ways.

If you know now that you will not be attending the event, we would like to ask your consideration in making a donation to our scholarship fund. As you can imagine, this will be another challenging year for our sponsorships, advertising and donations. Those areas of revenue are the primary sources for our scholarships.

In order to maintain our "normal" levels of scholarship awards, we need about \$15,000 to keep pace with our per-year average. We would appreciate your help. If you own a business or have strong connections to a business that can help, please consider arranging for a sponsorship, advertising and/or donation.

NFF HONORS EVENTS ORDER FORM CELEBRATING OUR LEGENDS XIX

Sunday, June 25, at Purdue Memorial Union in W. Lafayette with Brunch and Program starting at 12 noon and VIP Dessert Reception at 3:15pm. Order your tickets here and renew your membership or make a donation:

JUNE 25 BRUNCH:

Non-NFF and GBI Members: _____ x \$65 ea. = \$ _____

NFF and GBI Members* / Non-Member Students: _____ x \$55 ea. = \$ _____

NFF and GBI Member Students*#: _____ x \$45 ea. = \$ _____

VIP Dessert Reception (to meet the honorees) _____ x \$25 ea. = \$ _____

Table of Eight: _____ x \$520 ea. = \$ _____
(or \$440 each for members or \$360 each for students)

RECEPTION AND GOLF:

Honors Reception (on Aug. 31 or Sept. 1) _____ x \$30 ea. = \$ _____

Tyler Trent Golf Outing (Sept. 1) _____ x \$150 ea. = \$ _____

MEMBERSHIP:

One-Year NFF Membership: _____ x \$60 ea. = \$ _____

Three-Year NFF Membership: _____ x \$150 ea. = \$ _____

Scholarship Donation: _____ \$ _____

*NFF and GBI members get price break & priority seating, if ordered by June 14;

#Student rate applies through college age;

TICKETS WILL NOT BE MAILED ... PICK UP AT WELCOME TABLE.

Check Here _____ if you'd like more information about Tyler Trent Golf Outing.

Name: _____ Company Name: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Names of Your Guests: _____

Contact Jim Vrugink by email (jvruggink@purdue.edu)
or phone (765-427-3303) with questions.

(Please make check or money order payable to **National Football Foundation** and
send to: NFF Executive Director, 3672 Farnsworth Dr., West Lafayette, IN 47906-8750)

**REMEMBER:
RENEW YOUR
MEMBERSHIP
WHEN DUE!**

VISIT CHAPTER
WEB SITE AT:
www.nfftillerchapter.org

Upcoming Events:

June 25, 2023 – NFF Honors Brunch,
Purdue Memorial Union

Aug. 31, 2023 – NFF Honors Reception,
Bruno's or Coyote Crossing

Sept. 1, 2023 – Tyler Trent Golf Outing,
Coyote Crossing Golf Club

Sept. 2, 2023 – Purdue Home Opener vs.
Fresno State, Ross-Ade Stadium



National Football Foundation & College Football Hall of Fame, Inc.
 Joe Tiller Chapter of Northwest Indiana
 3672 Farnsworth Dr.
 West Lafayette, IN 47906-8750

EIGHT GENTLEMEN TO BE INDUCTED INTO HALL OF FAME

Continued from pg. 1

(McCutcheon/ volleyball), Owen Duff (Carroll/ basketball), Keegan Ellis (Carroll/football/offense), Alli Harness (Carroll/basketball), Ben Henderson (Harrison/basketball), Anna Lasater (West Lafayette/ soccer), Avery Layton (Rossville/softball '22), Ben Mazur (Lafayette Central Catholic/baseball '22), Ethan McCormick (Harrison/baseball '22), Max Mullis (West Lafayette/football/offense), Sydney Miller (Harrison/softball '22), Matthew Richardson (West Lafayette/football/defense), Grace Roach (Lafayette Central Catholic/volleyball) and Brinn Robbins (Lafayette Central Catholic/football/defense).

All 61 students who were selected as all-stars for the North team – some of them invited to this event for other awards and honors – are invited to this Honors Brunch and will receive certificates, if they attend. That entire list can be found at www.ifca.net.

It is still unknown (as of our printing deadline) whether Drew Brees, former Purdue and NFL star, will be able to attend either of this year's events. He has been invited to the 2023 events to pick up the award he was selected to receive in 2020 but was unable to attend due to COVID and scheduling conflicts.

The newly-selected community honorees for 2023 feature Nick Bostic who saved the lives of four Lafayette children when he happened across a house fire last July and was honored with a national award – the Carnegie Hero Medal, Mike Bauer for his generosity, Elisheba VanWinkle for her service, James Marshall for his game officiating, Nancy Cross for her career of loyalty to Purdue and Andrew Kinder as the Tyler Trent Scholarship winner.

Athletic-oriented awards this year will go to Charlie Jones and Aidan O'Connell for their impact on Purdue football, Zach Edey for his mental toughness and excellence in Purdue basketball as Consensus National Player of the Year and high school standouts Ashlynn Brooke and Kendal Rider for overcoming huge health issues.

The eight IFCA Hall of Fame inductees have



KERRIGAN



KUBAT



MEEKS



PAINTER

come to this distinction by very different paths – four as players, one each as a coach, sports writer, game official and donor.

Two of the players, Ryan Kerrigan and Curtis Painter of Purdue, will be inducted June 25 while Drew Brees will receive his Hall of Fame plaque next fall or next year and Clayton Richard will receive his Hall of Fame plaque next winter at a basketball game at McCutcheon H.S. Kerrigan was nominated by Muncie Central H.S. and Purdue, following a great playing career as an all-state defensive player in Muncie, an All-American in West Lafayette and an All-Pro in Washington, DC. Likewise, Painter enjoyed great success on offense as a quarterback at Vincennes Lincoln and Purdue while providing backup duties with three NFL teams over six seasons. Kerrigan is now an assistant coach with the Washington Commanders and Painter is in business living in Westfield, Ind.

Brees enjoyed an impressive four-year stint as Purdue's record-setting quarterback before surviving a major shoulder injury and posting a record-setting NFL career with the New Orleans Saints, including winning a Super Bowl in 2010.

Richard excelled in two sports as Mr. Football and Mr. Baseball while at McCutcheon and as a highly-recruited football and baseball player at the

University of Michigan before a lengthy career in Major League Baseball. Clayton is now coaching football and baseball at Lafayette Jefferson H.S.

The HOF inductee who earned his honor via coaching is Chris Meeks of Rensselaer Central H.S. where he has posted a record of 186-100 in 24 years (1999 through the present) as head coach after playing football for the Bombers in the early 1980's. His best coaching season was 2014 when Rensselaer Central won the Class 2A State Championship and posted a record of 15-0.

Tom Kubat was selected for induction after a 40-year career as sports writer for the Lafayette Journal & Courier, covering all sports for area high schools while being the primary beat reporter for Purdue sports for the majority of that time, winning many sports writing awards including induction into the Indiana Sportswriters Hall of Fame.

Posthumous inductions will include Todd Clark, who helped in the founding of the Western Indiana Officials Association in 2003 while having an on-field officiating career that spanned from 1974 through 2014, and John Scheumann, who was a very successful builder in the Lafayette area and was a major contributor to Lafayette Jeff for the building and remodeling of its football stadium.



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Whenever You Need It.**

