



LOOKING FOR CONSISTENCY IN 2022

NFF HONORS BRUNCH "CELEBRATING OUR LEGENDS XVIII" – JUNE 12

AUCTION/SALE – JULY or AUGUST

TYLER TRENT GOLF OUTING – SEPTEMBER 9

NFF HONORS RECEPTION – TBD

The Joe Tiller Chapter of Northwest Indiana is pleased to move in 2022 with momentum, optimism, new leadership and the satisfaction of pulling off several successful events in 2021 as we survived and overcame COVID. We will keep our fingers crossed that all those trends remain positive.

Our next Honors Brunch will be back into the Purdue Memorial Union Ballrooms on Sunday, June 12. It will be our 18th "Celebrating Our Legends" event and will recognize deserving community members while honoring area high school scholar-athletes as they prepare to move on to college. Like last year, some of the awards may be moved to another event, the NFF Honors Reception, which was held this past year in conjunction with the Tyler Trent Golf Outing. The reception is yet to be scheduled for 2022, but will most likely be in late August or early September. The chapter's advisory council is considering several other events and activities that will be finalized and announced after the first of the year.

IMPORTANT DEADLINES

Prior to any events, however, are two key deadlines for the NFF awards process. Nominations are due Feb. 1 from the high schools in the 17-county area of Northwest Indiana for the judging of the Scholar-Athlete of the Year Award. Also, Mar. 31 is the deadline for nominations for the other chapter awards (see awards and nomination form on adjoining pages).

High school coaches, athletic directors, academic counselors and principals provide the nominations of the high school scholar-athletes while anyone associated with our chapter, whether members or not, may nominate candidates for the chapter's community awards.

Along with the NFF awards, the annual Honors

Brunch/Dinner will also include awards and recognition for athletes selected by the Lafayette Journal & Courier sports staff based on nominations by coaches and athletic directors within the J&C coverage area.

MEMORABILIA AUCTIONS AND SALES

Memorabilia auctions and sales became a staple of our fund-raising activities during COVID and those activities will continue into 2022, thanks to the efforts of board member Young Lee, who planned and organized online sale through eBay and PayPal connecting through our chapter website. Young ran several sales in the fall, utilizing Purdue and Tiller memorabilia collected from several sources.

After netting more than \$12,500 (after expenses) that helped to fund the 2020 scholarship stipends for students and a sizable transfer of funds to the Tiller Endowment, the memorabilia sales have netted another \$18,000 (after expenses) in 2021, with the proceeds being split between various charities, the Tiller Endowment and the chapter's scholarship fund. The online sales effort will continue throughout 2022 as we accumulate more memorabilia items. A live auction/sale is also being considered, perhaps in conjunction with the Honors Reception mentioned above in the summer or early fall.

TYLER TRENT GOLF OUTING

The Tiller Chapter's annual golf outing has taking on a different look and direction.

After several years as the Ryan Kerrigan/12th Boiler Golf Outing as a combined effort between the NFF's Tiller Chapter and Purdue's Trademarks Licensing Office, a new partnership became necessary. In the spring of 2020, the chapter agreed to join forces with the Tyler Trent Family, the Elks Club of West Lafayette and Purdue's Center for Cancer



DR. BOB HAGEN - Was selected by the Board of Directors at the Fall Meeting of the Advisory Council to become the third president of the NFF's Joe Tiller Chapter of Northwest Indiana. For a complete list of members on the 2022 Advisory Council, see page 2. Dr. Hagen's presidency begins immediately.

Research to begin making plans for an event at the West Lafayette Golf Club in September of that year, but as COVID spiked in mid-summer, that event was postponed. Then, last winter, the Elks Club voted to dissolve itself leaving the Tiller Chapter and the PCCR to co-host the event.

Coyote Crossing Golf Club near West Lafayette "stepped up" and negotiated a good price and became the site of the Tyler Trent Golf Outing on Sept. 3 of this year. With 18 sponsors, 64 golfers, great weather and the cooperation of former Purdue quarterback standout Jim Everett, the outing experienced terrific success, raising \$6,000 for cancer research in honor of the legacy of Purdue "super-fan" Tyler Trent who passed away on the first day of 2019 after a news-making battle with osteosarcoma cancer.

The victorious team in this year's scramble was the Lafayette Journal & Courier's foursome of Tim

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TRENTS & EVERETT - Tony and Kelly Trent (left) visit with Laura Reyes and Jim Everett (right) prior to the start of the Tyler Trent Golf Outing at Coyote Crossing Golf Club on Sept. 3. The event generated \$12,000 for cancer research.

RECOGNIZING ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF OTHERS IS MAJOR ACHIEVEMENT FOR NFF TILLER CHAPTER

While we continue to adjust to new norms and revised expectations, one thing that remains constant for the NFF's Joe Tiller Chapter of Northwest Indiana is that we are dedicated to recognizing the accomplishments of others, in our awards process and in our distribution of scholarship funds and charity dollars.

In the past year, this chapter has experienced many changes and had to "adjust on the run," so to speak, but our major achievement survives. Our activities have changed, our sources of income have modified and our leadership is shifting, but our goals remain the same.

And, 2021 was a very good year.

Over the summer, the Tiller Chapter recognized 58 individuals for their accomplishments.

The June 27 event focused on 19 NFF scholar-athletes who were nominated by their schools throughout Northwest Indiana for the annual Scholar-Athlete of

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2021 AWARDS

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the Year Award and 22 Lafayette Journal & Courier sport-by-sport players of the year and student-athletes nominated by high school athletics directors in the J&C coverage area. Also recognized were eight Indiana Football Coaches Association North All-Star nominees from Regions 1 and 4. Personalized certificates were presented to each of these prep athletes who attended the Honors Brunch.

Along with the awards and recognition for the high school athletes, the Tiller Chapter also presented nine other awards, nominated and selected by chapter members and various entities, to recognize outstanding accomplishments in our communities. Most of these presentations occurred June 27 while two took place at the NFF's Honors Reception on Sept. 2.

The entire list of awards are as follows:

- J&C Female Student-Athletes of the Year – Megan Wagner
- J&C Male Student-Athletes of the Year – Lewis Dellinger
- NFF Chapter Scholar-Athlete of the Year – Owen Smith
- Patrick Mackey Courage Award – Patrick Kiefer
- Arnette Tiller Service to Football Award – Marion Vrugink
- Tyler Trent Courage and Resilience Award – Kyle Albertson
- Bernie Flowers Contribution to Amateur Sports Award – Young Lee
- Todd Clark Outstanding Game Official Award – Mark Maxwell
- Legends Award – Leroy Keyes (posthumously)
- Drew Brees Mental Toughness Award – Raheem Mostert
- Indiana Football Hall of Fame Inductee – Jim Everett
- Indiana Football Hall of Fame Inductee – Marshall Overley

The high school athletes receiving the highest honors were: Megan Wagner, a 12-time letterwinner in cross country, basketball and track, who ranked first in her class academically at Carroll H.S. (now a freshman at Purdue University) as the J&C's Female Student-Athlete of the Year; Lewis Dellinger, a 10-time letterwinner in football, basketball and golf, who ranked first in his class academically at Twin Lakes H.S. (now a freshman at Wabash College) as the J&C Male Student-Athlete of the Year; Owen Smith, a 10-time letterwinner in football, swimming and track, who ranked first in his class at Clinton Central H.S. (now a freshman at Anderson Univer-



OWEN SMITH - Was named the NFF's Scholar-Athlete of the Year for the Joe Tiller Chapter and is now attending Anderson University. Smith played at Clinton Central H.S. where he graduated tops in his senior class.

sity) as the NFF Tiller Chapter's Scholar-Athlete of the Year; and Patrick Kiefer, a football and basketball player and an academic all-state selection (now a freshman at Purdue) as the Patrick Mackey Courage Award winner after recovering from a severe eye injury.

The community awards were presented to: Marion Vrugink, a long-time athletic trainer with a history

BOARD CONTINUES SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

While refining several of the points, the Tiller Chapter's Board of Directors voted at the Fall Advisory Council Meeting in early November to continue with the sustainability plan that was originally created in 2015, then with the blessing of Joe Tiller. Some changes are under way ... and here are the important goals:

- Develop long-term plan for chapter's leadership succession (after Bart Burrell served as president from 2004 through 2015 and Kelly Kitchel from 2015 through this year, Dr. Bob Hagen becomes our third president as of the fall meeting; likewise Jeff Love served as treasurer from 2004 through 2015 when Janet Schweikher took over for six years leading to Paul Branham taking on that responsibility as of this fall; the executive director position is still held by Jim Vrugink (2004 - present) but he will retire from that position in 2024, if not sooner, when

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PATRICK KIEFER - Was selected as the Patrick Mackey Courage Award winner for 2021, recovering from the loss of an eye in a work mishap to play his senior year at Winamac H.S. He is now studying at Purdue and volunteering as an intern for the NFF.

of community, state and national volunteerism, as the Arnette Tiller Service to Football Award; Kyle Albertson, a recent Purdue graduate and business owner who was diagnosed with congenital muscular dystrophy when he was nine months old, as the Tyler Trent Courage and Resilience Award winner; Young Lee, a Lafayette businessman who created a new (and highly successful) form of fund-raising for the NFF Tiller Chapter, as the Bernie Flowers Award for Contribution to Sports; Mark Maxwell, a 22-year veteran of high school officiating, as the Todd Clark Officials' Award; Leroy Keyes, known as Purdue's greatest football player ever as he led the Boilermakers to their lone Rose Bowl victory, honored posthumously as the Legends Award winner following his death earlier this year; and Raheem Mostert, a former Boilermaker standout who overcame injuries to lead the San Francisco 49ers to Super Bowl XLIV as the Drew Brees Mental Toughness Award recipient.

Jim Everett and Marshall Overley were inducted into the Indiana Football Hall of Fame in separate ceremonies.

A native of Kansas and a graduate of Albuquerque Eldorado High School in New Mexico, Everett was inducted for his efforts at Purdue University. He came to Indiana as a highly-recruited quarterback and put up brilliant numbers (7,411 yards and 43 touchdowns) as a two-year starter at Purdue. He was second-team All-Big Ten and third team All-American, finishing sixth in balloting for the Heisman Trophy and was the third player chosen in

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NFF ADVISORY COUNCIL & COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR 2022

PRESIDENT – Dr. Bob Hagen
 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR – Jim Vrugink
 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SELECT – TBD
 DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR and WEB-MASTER – Travis Baugh
 NEWSLETTER PRODUCTION MANAGER – Jonathan Gandolf
 PHOTOGRAPHERS – Sandra Dukes and Chad Krockover
 BOARD OF DIRECTORS (Voting Members, * except for executive director) –
 PRESIDENT – Dr. Bob Hagen
 PAST PRESIDENTS – Bart Burrell, Kelly Kitchel
 TREASURER – Paul Branham; assistant Janet Schweikher

SECRETARY — Elisheba VanWinkle
 MEMBERSHIP CHAIR – David McGaughey; assistants Alan Karpick and Leroy Marsh
 AWARDS PROGRAM CHAIR – Jim Vrugink (*); assistants Alan Karpick, Matt Lancaster, Tom Schott and Jon Speaker
 EVENTS CO-CHAIRS – Travis Baugh and Austin Hoefling; assistants Nate Barrett and Rex Trautman
 ENDOWMENT CHAIR – Kelly Kitchel; assistants Max Bales, Keith Schwingendorf and David R. Williams
 SPONSORSHIPS & ADVERTISING CHAIR – Travis Baugh; assistants Tim Bobillo, Trent Johnson and Rex Trautman
 COMMUNICATIONS CHAIR – Alan Karpick; as-

sistant Sam King
 AUCTIONS/SALES – Young Lee and Travis Baugh
 SPECIAL PROJECTS CHAIR – Brad Smith (IFCA) and Jim MacDonald (DGC)
 AT-LARGE – Orlando Iftin and Jeff Love
 MEMBERS SERVING ON COMMITTEES:
 JD Arland, Zander Atwood, Erika Austin, Drew Brees, Don Coller, Patrick Crawford, Dwayne Greer, Joe Hernandez, Tim House, John Langenkamp, Ryan Spesard, Craig Voll and George Wodicka
 INTERNS:
 Patrick Kiefer and Ben Riggins
 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

PREP AND COMMUNITY STARS HONORED AT DINNER

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the NFL Draft of 1986, picked by the Houston Oilers. He played eight of his 11 NFL seasons with the Los Angeles Rams, where he led the league in passing twice and was named All-Pro in 1991.

Overley is an Indiana native and a graduate of Twin Lakes High School and Hanover College. He enjoyed a career in teaching and coaching with a combined record of 237-137 in 34 total years as an assistant and head coach, mostly at West Lafayette High School where he was part of two state championship teams (1993 as defensive coordinator and 2009 as head coach). Overley spent six years as an assistant at Frontier High School and 16 years as an assistant at WLHS. In his 12 years as the head coach, Overley led the Red Devils to a record of 81-55 with one state title, a semi-state title, two regional championships and three sectional championships. He also won a pair of Hoosier Conference titles. Overley retired in 2012 and now lives in Indianapolis.

Each high school athlete was introduced separately and received his or her certificate of recognition from Matt Lancaster, our 2009 NFF Scholar-Athlete of the Year from West Lafayette High School, who played college football at Butler and is now a dentist in Lafayette, and Brad Smith, a board member for both the NFF and the Indiana Football Coaches Association. Here's the list of athletes, along with their high schools, reason for their honor and their colleges plans as of last summer:

From Andean High School - Vincent Allegretti, who was a finalist for the NFF Scholar-Athlete of the Year Award. He is attend Indiana University this fall.

From Oak Hill High School - Gabe Anderson, who was an NFF Scholar-Athlete nominee. He is continuing his education at Indiana University this fall.

From McCutcheon High School - Katie Buckles, who was a finalist for the J&C Student-Athlete of the Year Award. She is attending Purdue University this fall.

From Central Catholic High School - Jacob Bunton, an NFF Scholar-Athlete nominee now attending Purdue University.

From North Montgomery High School - Sidney Campbell, a finalist for the J&C Student-Athlete of the Year award. She is advancing her education and swimming career at Indiana Wesleyan, this fall.

From Twin Lakes High School - Kyla Canen, who was selected as a Region 4 All-Star as a student manager. She is continuing her academic career at Ivy Tech.

From Kankakee Valley High School - Elijah Carden, an NFF Scholar-Athlete nominee, who is attending Wabash College this fall and playing football.

From Rensselaer Central High School - Kyle Carter, a J&C Student-Athlete of the Year nominee. He is attend Colorado State University this fall.

From McCutcheon High School - Chloe Chicoine, who was named the J&C Player of the Year in volleyball. She is a junior at McCutcheon this fall and recently committed to Penn State University as her college choice.

From Central Catholic High School - Mark Cramer, a J&C Student-Athlete of the Year nominee, who continuing his education at Purdue University.

From Twin Lakes High School - Lewis Dellinger, an NFF Scholar-Athlete of the Year nominee and a Region 4 All-Star, was named the male winner of the J&C Student-Athlete of the Year Award. He is attending Wabash College this fall and competing in football and golf.

From Elwood High School - Ben DeLong, an NFF Scholar-Athlete of the Year nominee. He is continuing his studies at Ivy Tech in the fall.

From Eastern High School - Zane Downing, a 2021 NFF Scholar-Athlete of the Year Award nominee. He is continuing his education at Franklin College where he is playing football.

From North Newton High School - Mackenzie Dresbaugh, a finalist for the J&C Student-Athlete of the Year Award. She is continuing her education and golf career at Marian College.

From Fountain Central High School - Carson Eberly, a finalist for the J&C Student-Athlete of the Year Award. He is attending Purdue University this fall.

From North Newton High School - Cade Ehlinger, a J&C Student-Athlete of the Year nominee. He is continuing his education at Ball State this fall.

From Tri-County High School - Kylie Foster, a J&C Student-Athlete of the Year nominee, who is continuing her education at Purdue University this year.

From Delphi High School - Evan Fritz, an NFF Scholar-Athlete of the Year nominee, is a Region 4 All-Star, a J&C Student-Athlete of the Year nominee and J&C Small School Offensive Football Player of Year. He is attending Purdue

University this fall.

From Seeger High School - Elijah Greene, who was selected as a Region 4 All-Star, is attending Wabash College this fall and playing football.

From North Judson High School - Trey Hampton, an NFF Scholar-Athlete of the Year nominee. He is continuing his education at Purdue University this year.

From Carroll High School - Jaden Harness, a J&C Student-Athlete of the Year nominee. He is attending Trine University this fall and playing football.

From Twin Lakes High School - Taylor Hodgen, a J&C Student-Athlete of the Year nominee, who is continuing her education at Grace College where she will play softball.

From Winamac High School - Patrick Kiefer, a finalist for the NFF Scholar-Athlete of the Year Award and the recipient of the Patrick Mackey Courage. He is attend Purdue University this fall and is serving as an intern for the NFF's Tiller Chapter.

From Harrison High School - Zion King, an NFF Scholar-Athlete of the Year nominee, who was a Region 4 All-Star, and a J&C Student-Athlete of the Year nominee. He was selected to play in the Indiana North-South all-star game. He is continuing his education at Ball State University this fall.

From Lafayette Jeff High School - Caleb Koeppen, a finalist for the J&C Student-Athlete of the Year Award. He is attending Purdue University and playing baseball.

From Lafayette Jeff High School - Colton Lehnen, a finalist for the NFF Scholar-Athlete of the Year Award. He is continuing his studies at Purdue University this fall.

From Andean High School - Jayden Lynon, who was selected as a Region 1 All-Star. He is attending North Central College this fall to continue his academic and football careers.

From McCutcheon High School - Teresa Maggio, who was named the J&C Player of the Year for Girls Basketball and is a senior this fall.

From North Judson High School - Dylan Marin, who was named a Region 4 All-Star. He joined the Local 597 Pipefitters Union after graduation.

From Northwestern High School - Jacob Martin, a finalist for the NFF Scholar-Athlete of the Year Award. He is continuing his education at Johns Hopkins University this fall.

From Clinton Prairie High School - Tynlie Neal, who was named the J&C Player of the Year for Girls Basketball. She is a senior at Clinton Prairie this fall.

From West Central High School - Braden Nuest, a J&C Student-Athlete of the Year nominee, who is continuing his education at Ivy Tech this fall.

From Attica High School - Ella Peterson, a J&C Student-Athlete of the Year nominee, who is continuing her education at Purdue University this fall.

From McCutcheon High School - Spencer Phillips, a finalist for the J&C Student-Athlete of the Year Award. He is advancing his education at Wabash College this fall where he will wrestle.

From West Central High School - Emily Pilarski, a J&C Student-Athlete of the Year nominee. She is attending IU-Fort Wayne this fall.

From West Lafayette High School - Sam Schott, an NFF Scholar-Athlete nominee, who was a Region 4 All-Star and a finalist for the J&C Student-Athlete of the Year Award. He was selected to play in the Indiana North-South All-Star Game and continues his education and football career at Illinois Wesleyan this fall.

From North Montgomery High School - Zak Searle, a J&C Student-Athlete of the Year nominee. He is continuing his education and football career at Illinois Wesleyan this fall.

From Clinton Central High School - Addy Sheets, a J&C Student-Athlete of the Year nominee. DePauw University is where Addy continues her academic and golf careers.

From Clinton Central High School - Owen Smith, who was named the NFF Scholar-Athlete of the Year and was a J&C Student-Athlete of the Year nominee. He is attending Anderson University this fall.

From Carroll High School - Megan Wagner, who was named the J&C Student-Athlete of the Year. She is continuing her education at Purdue University this fall.

From South Newton High School - Samantha Warren, a J&C Student Athlete of the Year nominee who was named J&C Player of the Year in Volleyball. She is continuing her volleyball and academic career at Valparaiso University.

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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.

2005 Honoree: *William Bowman of Lafayette Jefferson H.S.*
2006 Honoree: *Brett Courtney of West Lafayette Harrison H.S.*
2007 Honoree: *James Wodicka of West Lafayette H.S.*
2008 Honoree: *Griffin Richeson of Lafayette Central Catholic H.S.*
2009 Honoree: **Matt Lancaster of West Lafayette H.S.*
2010 Honoree: **Daniel Wodicka of West Lafayette H.S.*
2011 Honoree: *Alex Hegg of Seeger Memorial H.S.*
2012 Honoree: *Dayton Snyder of West Lafayette H.S.*
2013 Honoree: *#Ryan Spesard of Carroll H.S.*
2014 Honoree: **Andrew Ralph of Chesterton H.S.*
2015 Honoree: *Joshua Brune of Bellmont H.S.*
2016 Honoree: *Cody Colbert of Tri-Central H.S.*
2017 Honoree: *Jack DeGroot of Winamac H.S.*
2018 Honoree: *#August Schott of West Lafayette H.S.*
2019 Honoree: *#Jack Kiser of Pioneer H.S.*
2020 Honoree: *#Ayden Ayres of Carroll H.S.*
2021 Honoree: *Owen Smith of Clinton Central H.S.*
** Midwest Region S-A of Year; # State of Indiana S-A of Year*

IMPACT AWARD

This award, originally named "Purdue is Proud of You" Award, has been repurposed to provide recognition to a person from Purdue who has made a major impact on the game of football and who has provided positive exposure for Purdue through his or her efforts. The recipient will have maintained a lifetime of interest in the football while exhibiting exceptional qualities in his or her profession or activity even beyond that game.

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 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*
2019 Honoree: *Rondale Moore, Purdue's first Consensus All-American as a Freshman*
2020 Honoree: *George Karlaftis, Purdue's Freshman All-American Def. End*

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 or programs 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 U.*
2013 Honoree: *Jamie Marsh, wife of Coach Leroy Marsh, Munster H.S.*
2015 Honoree: *Sarah Lim, 7-yr. student manager, West Lafayette HS & Purdue*
2018 Honoree: *Jan O'Shea, wife of coach Frank O'Shea, mother of Kevin O'Shea*
2021 Honoree: *Marion Vrugink, 42 years of athletic training service to athletes*

PATRICK MACKKEY 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, administrator or avid

supporter. The award is sponsored by Franciscan Health Sports Medicine.

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 Honors Dinner.

2012 Honoree: *Danny Anthrop of Lafayette Central Catholic H.S.*
2013 Honorees: *Cooper Fulmer of Winamac/Patrick Mackey of Lafayette Central Catholic H.S.*
2014 Honoree: *Jack Folkers of West Lafayette H.S.,*
2016 Honoree: *Josh Turanchick of Oak Hill H.S.*
2017 Honoree: *Riley Lowder of Delphi H.S.*
2018 Honoree: *Tyler Trent of Purdue University*
2019 Honorees: *Cody Payne/Drew DeBoer of Lafayette Jefferson H.S.*
2020 Honoree: *Isaiah Harris of Bowman Leadership Academy*
2021 Honoree: *Patrick Kiefer of Winamac H.S.*

TYLER TRENT COURAGE & RESILIENCE AWARD

This award is a tribute to Tyler Trent, a former Purdue student who valiantly battled cancer while fervently supporting "his" Boilermakers until the very end. He died Jan. 1, 2019, at age 19. The recipient receives a full scholarship at Purdue, funded through a combination of gifts. It is awarded to undergraduate students at Purdue's West Lafayette campus who have encountered serious physical or similarly daunting adversity in their pursuit of higher education.

Selection process: Nominations/applications are accepted by the President's Office throughout the year from Purdue students. The decision is made by the president and announced in the spring with possible recognition provided at the annual NFF Honors Dinner or Honors Reception.

2019 Honoree: *Sean English of Northville, Mich.*
2020 Honoree: *Kamryn Dehn of Frankfort, Ind.*
2021 Honoree: *Kyle Albertson of Fowler, Ind.*

BERNIE FLOWERS AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO AMATEUR SPORTS

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 sports 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. The award is sponsored by Genre Hotels.

Selection process: Nominations are accepted throughout the year from NFF chapter members and considered by the Awards Committee. 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 Rohman of Lafayette*
2015 Honoree: *David M. Williams of Lafayette Area Little Gridiron*
2016 Honorees: *Larry Leverenz, Eric Nauman and Tom Talavage of Purdue Neurotrauma Group*
2017 Honoree: *Darren Hicks of Lafayette Central Catholic Little Gridiron*
2018 Honorees: *Brad Cohen of Arni's and Orlando Itin of Bruno's*
2019 Honoree: *Tracy Brown of Harrison Youth Football*
2020 Honoree: *Rod Kochon of West Lafayette Little League*
2021 Honoree: *Young Lee of NFF's Joe Tiller Chapter of NW Indiana*

TODD CLARK AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING GAME OFFICIAL

This award is intended to become an annual award to provide recognition to an individual game official in our region as identified by the Western Indiana Officials Association. The award recognizes an individual who works tirelessly out of love for sports and the demands for fairness. The award winner can be an official of any sport who shares the values and goals of the National Football Foundation.

Selection process: Nominations are accepted throughout the year from WIOA members coordinator by NFF board member Max Bales, who also officiates. The WIOA's award recommendation must be ratified by the Board of Directors and the presentation should be made at the annual Honors Dinner.

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2018 Honoree: Dr. Todd Clark of West Lafayette, Ind.

2019 Honoree: Todd Ransom of Frankfort, Ind.

2020 Honoree: Darren Haas of Crawfordsville, Ind.

2021 Honoree: Mark Maxwell of Crawfordsville, Ind.

CITIZENSHIP AWARD

This award, which is sponsored by the Lafayette Journal & Courier, provides 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 at 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

2018 Honoree: David Blough of Purdue University

2019 Honoree: Aaron Lai of Purdue University

LEGENDS AWARD

This award is sponsored by the Purdue Alumni Association 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 Honors Dinner.

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

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

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

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

2017 Honoree: Roy Johnson, "Voice of the Band" at Purdue for 43 years

2018 Honoree: Jeff Washburn, sportswriter in Lafayette community for 40 yrs.

2019 Honoree: Larry Clisby, play-by-play announcer for Purdue and local high schools

2021 Honoree: Leroy Keyes, "Greatest Player" in Purdue Football's 100 Years

DREW BREES 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 the presentation should be made at the annual 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

2017 Honorees: Rosevelt Barnes, Caleb Swanigan of the Purdue Boilermakers

2018 Honoree: Elijah Sindelar of the Purdue Boilermakers

2019 Honoree: David Blough of the Purdue Boilermakers

2020 Honoree: Raheem Mostert of the San Francisco 49ers

"HE PLAYED FOOTBALL" AWARD

This 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 names."

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 Honors Dinner.

2014 Honoree: Froncie Gutman, former Purdue player and director of Cleveland Eye Clinic

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

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

2017 Honoree: Mike Berghoff, former Purdue walk-on, now President of Lenon Steel and Chairman of Purdue's Board of Trustees

DISTINGUISHED AMERICAN AWARD

This 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 the presentation should be made at the 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, former Purdue All-American, salesman 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

2020 Honoree: Drew Brees, former Boilermaker/current Saints QB

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 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 the presentation should be made at the annual Dinner.

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

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

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

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

2017 Honoree: Morgan Burke, Purdue's Director of Intercollegiate Athletics, 23 years

NOMINATION FORM FOR 2022 AWARDS

(Submit by March 31, 2022, to Jim Vruggink via phone at 765-427-3303, email at jvruggink@purdue.edu or mail at 3672 Farnsworth Drive, West Lafayette, IN 47906)

Name of nominee _____

For which award? _____

Phone/address of nominee _____

Reasons for nomination _____

Your name _____

Phone or email _____

HONOREES OF 2021



Our honorees for 2021 covered a wide range of talents and accomplishments including (from left to right across the top row): Marshall Overley, being interviewed by Nate Barrett, during his induction into the Indiana Football Hall of Fame; Jim Everett, accompanied by Brad Smith and Mark Herrmann, upon his induction into the Indiana Football Hall of Fame; Lewis Dellinger, with Sam King, accepting his J&C Male Student-Athlete of the Year Award; Megan Wagner accepting her J&C Female Student-

Athlete of the Year Award; (from left of right across the bottom row) Raheem Mostert getting the Drew Brees Mental Toughness Award; Mark Maxwell receiving Todd Clark Officials Award; Kyle Albertson winning Tyler Trent Courage & Resilience Award; Marion Vrugink honored with the Arnette Tiller Service to Football Award; and Colin Keyes representing the Leroy Keyes Family during presentation of the Legends Award (posthumously) to Leroy.



SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

Continued from pg. 2

- a new executive director is identified.
- Develop a creative emphasis on chapter's website utilizing Travis Baugh's and Young Lee's availability, ideas and know-how ... using website to generate sales of memorabilia and to provide exposure for sponsors/advertisers ... and continue to develop plans to enhance our social media.
- Develop plan to expand membership numbers (which have slipped considerably to less than half of our high-water mark. We dropped from being No. 2, down to No. 8, before bouncing back to No. 5 earlier this year) ... should include emphasis on use of social media, targeting younger football fans, and developing a chapter membership arrangement that could be exclusively used by us or added to national dues.
- Morph our NFF's 2020 Vision campaign into a "2025 DRIVE" to build on our endowment fund.
- Consider additional events and projects to generate more funds for the Tiller Endowment.
- Distribute awards nomination forms to members via chapter's newsletter and website.
- Continue cooperation with the Trent Family and Purdue's Center for Cancer Research in hosting the Tyler Trent Golf Outing along with exploring opportunities with the Downtown Gridiron Club, Indiana Football Hall of Fame and the three other Indiana NFF chapters.
- Continue to involve Lafayette Journal & Courier's High School Student-Athlete Awards with our Honors Brunch/Dinner event for the high schools and continue a totally separate event to honor college (Purdue awards) in conjunction with Tyler Trent Golf Outing or another event.



GOLFERS & QB - Four golfers, (left to right) Joe Hernandez, Austin Hoefling, Tim Bobillo and Phil Fiorini representing Purdue Marketing & Communications, pose for quick picture with former Purdue quarterback Jim Everett. Guess who can see over the offensive line.

CONSISTENCY IN 2022

Continued from pg. 1

Adams, Tom Cavanaugh, Paul Barrick and Junior Fassnacht, edging out Team Sorensen (Gerry and Dean Abplanalp, Ron Wildman and Erik Sorensen) by two strokes and Sigma Chi II (Chris Coffey, Jim Hawkins, Rob Barrett and Drew Eddy) by five. Prizes, valued at more than \$2,500, were awarded to the participants.

The 2022 Tyler Trent Golf Outing is in the early planning stages, but probably will return to Coyote Crossing on Sept. 9, which is the Friday prior to Purdue's home football game vs. Indiana State.



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

VARSITY CLUB

\$60 One-Year Membership (includes NFF T-shirt) T-shirt size: _____

ALL-CONFERENCE CLUB

\$150 Three-Year Membership (includes NFF T-shirt & 2 NFF coffee mugs)

T-shirt size: _____

HALL OF FAME CLUB

\$1,000 Lifetime Membership (includes NFF T-shirt & 2 NFF coffee mugs)

PAYMENT OPTIONS

T-shirt size: _____

- 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: Security Code:

Signature:

(Please indicate cc billing address
if different from above)

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

OR Online: <https://www.caringcent.com/NFFchapter/>

NFF: HONORING THE LEGACY OF JOE TILLER

For the past 18 years, football fans of Purdue University and Northwest Indiana have been channeling some of their enthusiasm and support for amateur football through the National Football Foundation's chapter based in West Lafayette.

In the 17 years since receiving its charter, the Northwest Indiana Chapter (which became the Joe Tiller Chapter of Northwest Indiana in 2007) has enlisted more than 850 members, becoming the largest chapter in the state and, at one point, was second largest in the nation.

The chapter typically plans several annual events in the area – highlighted by its marquee event, the Honors Dinner/Brunch “Celebrating Our Legends” each spring. Drew Brees, one of Tiller's first recruits who led Purdue to the Rose Bowl in 2001 and a Hall of Fame quarterback with the New Orleans Saints, has been a guest speaker and presenter at several of the 17 dinners. At that event, the chapter recognizes individuals from the region for various awards and accomplishments, including the announcement of the chapter's Scholar Athlete of the Year Award. As a non-profit organization, this chapter has awarded approximately \$338,000 in grants, scholarships, honorariums and donations since receiving its charter in 2004.

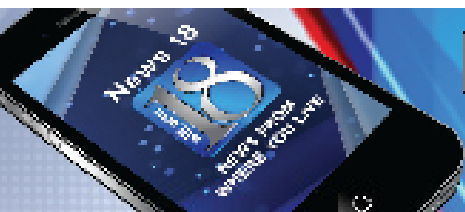
This chapter offers scholarship opportunities for scholar athletes after graduation from 70 high schools in 17 Northwest Indiana counties (ranging from Tippecanoe to Lake counties). Selection of the Scholar Athlete of the Year is based 40% on academic achievement, 40% football performance and attitude, and 20% leadership and citizenship. 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. In its first 17 years, this chapter has recognized 391 scholar athletes, awarding scholarships or stipends to many of them for their second semester of college, totaling about \$260,000.

Each dues-paying member receives a ballot in the selection process for the College Football Hall of Fame, a feature that helped elect former Purdue All-Americans Mike Phipps, Mark Herrmann, Otis Armstrong, Dave Butz and Rod Woodson to the Hall in 2006, 2010, 2012, 2014 and 2016, respectively. “One of the most important goals of the chapter is to help provide support for former players and coaches who deserve induction into the College Hall of Fame,” says Kelly Kitchel, the chapter president and a former Purdue player.

Also, this chapter has been very helpful in getting Armstrong, Butz and Woodson along with Joe Tiller, Mike Alstott, Leroy Keyes, Pete Quinn, Jim Young, Bernie Flowers, Len Dawson, Dale Samuels, Dustin Keller, Jim Everett and several area high school coaches inducted into the Indiana FB Hall of Fame since 2012.

In addition to the scholarships, the local chapter has been involved in support of various youth programs and charities in the area and provides financial assistance for the Indiana Football Hall of Fame and the John Purdue Club's 12th Boiler Scholarship Program.

The tax-deductible membership dues are now \$60 per year or \$150 for three years, payable to the National Football Foundation. The NFF has 120 chapters in 47 states and more than 10,000 members, nationally, and awards more than \$1.3 million in scholarships per year while also administering the College Football Hall of Fame. For more information, contact Jim Vrugink (email: jvrugink@purdue.edu; phone: 765-427-3303; or mail: 3672 Farnsworth Drive, West Lafayette, IN 47906;. Also, see our website at: www.nfftillerchapter.org



**News, Weather, and Sports
Whenever You Need It.**

