



NFF

Joe Tiller Chapter of Northwest Indiana "Building leaders through football"

VOLUME FOUR

ISSUE THREE

SEPTEMBER 2010

QB'S TAKE CENTER STAGE AT NFF HONORS DINNER

Former Purdue quarterbacks "stole the show" but a wide receiver-turned-quarterback walked off with the big trophy at the sixth annual NFF Honors Dinner on June 22nd at the Purdue Memorial Union.

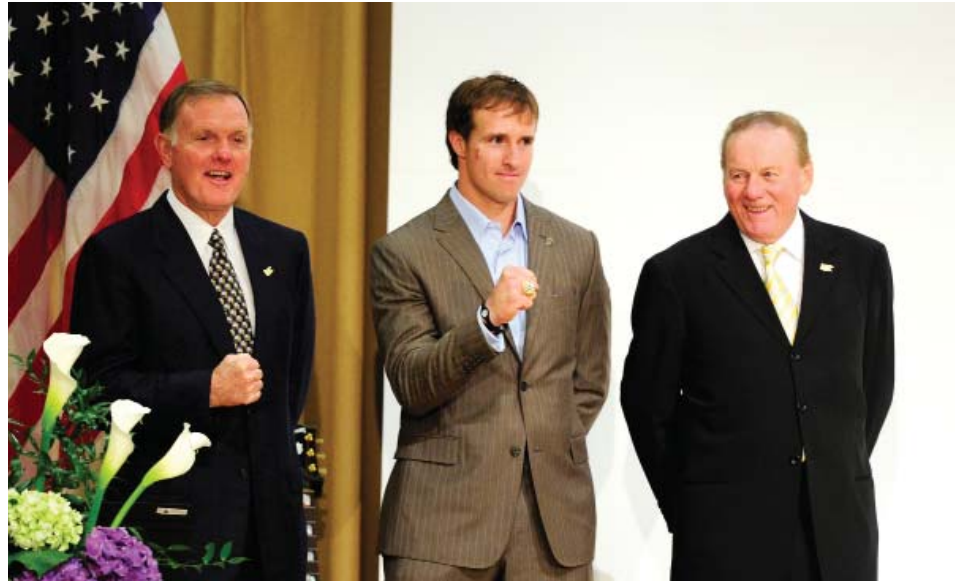
It was an evening of awards and celebration as Drew Brees, Len Dawson and Bob Griese, Purdue's three Super Bowl Champion quarterbacks, appeared together for the first time ever in West Lafayette to receive their Gold Medallions, while Mark Herrmann was honored as a 2010 selection for the College Football Hall of Fame.

However, the big winner of the evening was West Lafayette High School standout Daniel Wodicka, who was named as Northwest Indiana's Scholar Athlete of the Year, receiving a large trophy and scholarship assistance of more than \$5,000.

The event, co-hosted by the National Football Foundation's Joe Tiller Chapter of Northwest Indiana and Purdue University's Gimlet Leadership Honorary, drew a crowd of more than 750.

In receiving the Gold Medallion, the QB trio earned the chapter's highest award, having been awarded only once previously (to Dr. Martin Jischke upon his retirement as Purdue President in 2007). It is given only in special circumstances to honor highly successful people who have achieved significant career success while demonstrating integrity and honesty and bringing recognition to the local area covered by the Joe Tiller Chapter. The three were also honored by Purdue University's President France Córdova and Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Keith Krach, with special resolutions and were given "Cradle of Quarterbacks" jackets.

Purdue now matches Alabama as the only universities in the nation to have three alums as Super Bowl Champion quarterbacks. The Crimson Tide claims



Above: Together for the first time ever on campus at Purdue, the Boilermakers' three Super Bowl Champion Quarterbacks, (left to right, Bob Griese, Drew Brees and Len Dawson), pose for pictures on stage at the Purdue Memorial Union Ballrooms just before receiving their Gold Medallions from the NFF's Joe Tiller Chapter at the annual Honors Dinner in June (Photo by Brent Drinkat of Lafayette Journal & Courier).

**DVD'S OF JUNE 22
HONORS DINNER NOW
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CHAPTER'S WEBSITE REDESIGNED

Thanks to the generosity and expertise of former Purdue football player Jon Goldsberry, the Joe Tiller Chapter of Northwest Indiana has a brand new look and many new features on its web site. You can now become a member and/or renew your membership on the web site. Check it out at:

www.nfftillerchapter.org

Bart Starr, Joe Namath and Kenny Stabler.

Meanwhile, Herrmann, who was a two-time All-American QB and an 11-year veteran of the NFL, was honored for being selected this spring for induction in the College Football Hall of Fame, becoming the seventh Purdue player ever chosen.

In addition, Joe McConnell, who retired as a Purdue's football play-by-play announcer after the 2009 season, received the chapter's Outstanding Contribution to Amateur Football Award. He was recognized for his 15 years of superb work in calling games for Boilermaker radio listeners throughout Indiana.

Prior to Brees's Super Bowl triumph in February, Dawson won in 1971 and Griese did the same in 1973. Griese actually started three Super Bowls (VI, VII and VIII) after Dawson started Super Bowls I and IV. Both were on the losing end of their first games before winning their subsequent appearances. Dawson, in fact, was named Most Valuable Player of Super Bowl IV after Kansas City defeated the Minnesota Vikings 23-7. And the Dolphins' 14-7 over the Washington Redskins in Super Bowl VII capped a 17-0 season, as Miami become the only unbeaten, untied Super Bowl champ. Brees was named MVP of Super Bowl XLIV after leading New Orleans to a 31-17 victory over the Indianapolis Colts, capping a magical season for the Saints and their loyal fans.

A total of 27 high school football players from the 18 counties of Northwest Indiana that encompass the Joe Tiller Chapter received scholarship assistance totaling nearly \$30,000 for their first year of college. They are: Nicholas Biancardi (Griffith), Greg Burns (Lafayette Central Catholic), Steven Cavanaugh (Clinton Prairie), Austen Conwell (Taylor), Tanner Cripe (Delphi), Damon Foreman (Lewis Cass), Marc

Heater (Winamac), Mike Huffer (Lafayette Jefferson), Andy Hunkeler (Northwestern), Kyle Kellar (Wheeler), David Lee (Gary West Side), Derrick McQuiston (Logansport), Keifer Morgan (Munster), Scott Moore (Fountain Central), Nicholas Morris (Benton Central), Phillip Newbill (Maconaquah), Clay Oppy (McCutcherson), Darius Parker (East Chicago Central), Jacob Rietow (Knox), T.K. Rock (Harrison), Seth Rooze (Attica), John Saltanovitz (Valparaiso), Richard Schmidt (Andean), Casey Shipley (Kokomo), Eric Shorten (Oak Hill), Andrew Wilson (Twin Lakes), and Wodicka.

Six of these young men -- Burns, Heater, Moore,

NFF MEMBERS:

As always, we appreciate your past and current support of this chapter and want to ask you to please continue to renew your memberships (\$40 per year or \$99 for three years) when they become due. Unfortunately, many of you have allowed your memberships to lapse during the last two years. As you know, only dues-paying members receive ballots in the selection process each March for the College Football Hall of Fame. Also, a portion of your dues comes back to our chapter to award scholarships to deserving high school scholar-athletes from this area for use in their first year of college. If you are unsure of your membership status, please contact Jim Vruggink (via email: jvruggink@purdue.edu; phone: 765-427-3303; or postal: 320 Dehart St., West Lafayette, IN 47906) to check your renewal date. Also, please provide him with any changes in your address, email or phone numbers. Thanks.



NFF

Joe Tiller Chapter of Northwest Indiana "Building leaders through football"

HONORS DINNER AWARDS

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 Honors Dinner.

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

2008 Honoree: No one selected

2009 Honoree: No one selected

2010 Honoree: Drew Brees, Len Dawson and Bob Griese, Purdue's Super Bowl Champion Quarterbacks

OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO AMATEUR FOOTBALL AWARD

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 Purdue Radio Network

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 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

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: Roosevelt Colvin of the New England Patriots

2008 Honoree: Nick Hardwick of the San Diego Chargers

2009 Honoree: Akin Ayodele of the Miami Dolphins

2010 Honoree: No one selected

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 the presentation should be 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, former Purdue All-American, salesman extraordinaire

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

2010 Honoree: No one selected

NOMINATION FORM

(Submit by January 15, 2011, to Jim Vrugink via phone at 765-427-3303, email at jvruggink@purdue.edu or mail at 320 Dehart St., West Lafayette, IN 47906)

Name of nominee _____

For which award? _____

Phone/address of nominee _____

Reasons for nomination _____

Your name _____

Phone or email _____

2010 CHAPTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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VICE PRESIDENTS -

Finance - Jeff Love

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Lake Michigan Membership - John Friend

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Irving, TX 75039

Phone: 972-556-1000

E-mail: membership@footballfoundation.com

Web site: www.footballfoundation.com

College Football Hall of Fame

111 South Saint Joseph Street

South Bend, IN 46601

Phone: 574-235-5720 or 800-440-FAME (3263)

E-mail: hof@collegefootball.org

Web site: aaa.collegefootball.org

Executive Director's Report:

CHAPTER FINANCES "GOOD" THANKS TO NEW EVENTS

While fund-raising for scholarships remains a considerable challenge for the Joe Tiller Chapter of Northwest Indiana in today's economic climate, we took advantage of a few new opportunities in 2010 and had our best year ever in terms of helping people.

The addition of a charity concert, the expansion of our golf scramble, and the creation of a VIP reception generated approximately \$7,000 of "new" money for our NFF Scholarship Fund and \$13,500 for other charities and needy causes.

The March 7 NFF Charity Concert at the West Lafayette High School Auditorium came about due to the generosity and talents of chapter member Levi Riggs along the efforts of the Gimlet Leadership Honorary. The concert cleared more than \$6,000, with half of that going to the Purdue Haiti Team to help build houses in earthquake-ravaged Haiti, and the other half going to our NFF Scholarship Fund.

The Golf Scramble for the second year in a row was a shared event, co-hosted by the NFF and Purdue's Trademark Licensing Office, with the intent of splitting the "profits" between our NFF Scholarship Fund and the John Purdue Club's 12th Boiler Program. The event, held April 16, a day before Purdue's Spring Game, netted each fund more than \$2,000 this year thanks to the participation by 56 golfers. Last year's scramble "netted" \$375 for each fund with participation by 34 golfers.

The sixth annual NFF Honors Dinner "Celebrating Our Legends" was, without a doubt, our biggest and best ever. With Drew Brees, Len Dawson and Bob Griese on hand to be honored as Purdue's three Super Bowl Champion quarterbacks, receiving our Gold Medallion Award, the chapter set an attendance record for this event.

We received ticket orders and requests for 833 tickets, but the official attendance was 750. Last year our final count was 413. We "negotiated" our way back into the Purdue Memorial Union, utilizing both ballrooms for dinner, having a plated dinner instead of a buffet, and moving the Silent Auction Reception in the Lounge Area. We also added a very success VIP Reception that netted approximately \$10,000 for charities, including \$2,500 for our own scholarship fund.

Total cash revenues for this year's Honors Dinner and surrounding activities were \$67,114.

Because of the larger crowd, expenses for this event increased considerably, including the addition of the video screens needed in the North and South Ballrooms and upgrades to the meal. Total cost, with all bills paid, was \$59,360 including a record payment of \$30,000 in scholarships and honorariums. We are carrying forward a balance of \$30,000 into our seventh year of existence. Thanks for your support!

Submitted by Jim Vrugink

NFF ORDER FORM

"Honors Dinner 2010" - DVD

DVD copy of the entire program, featuring the presentations, comments and "celebrity" appearances of some of Purdue's most famous athletes and personalities who were part of a June event, the 2010 NFF Honors Dinner, that will be long remembered and difficult to top. You'll especially enjoy the interviews of honorees Len Dawson, Bob Griese, Drew Brees, Mark Herrmann, Joe McConnell and Daniel Wodicka.

"Ross-Ade Stadium Panorama" - Autographed Photo

A panoramic night view of Ross-Ade Stadium captured from the top of the east stands during kickoff of the 2009 Purdue-Notre Dame game facing the press box and a beautiful sunset, make this 13" X 40" picture a keepsake. Already autographed by Purdue Head Football Coach Danny Hope makes it suitable for framing.

"Mackey Arena Panorama" - Autographed Photo

A panoramic view of Keady Court captured from the west camera deck of Mackey Arena during the 2010 Purdue-Indiana game creates a 13" X 40" piece of Boilermaker history. Already autographed by Purdue Head Basketball Coach Matt Painter, this picture is a "must-have" for fans commemorating Purdue's 22nd Big Ten basketball championship.

"Joe Tiller Roast & Toast" - DVD

DVD copy of all the comments, jokes and sentiments expressed during the January 2009 event attended by former and current players, coaches, and supporters in honor of Joe Tiller. Roasters and toasters include Joe Paterno, Barry Alvarez, Gene Keady, Danny Hope, Bill Doba, Rosevelt Colvin, Drew Brees, Matt Light, Brock Spack, Jim Chaney and others.

"Chicago Reunion" - Photo

An 8X10 photo of Joe Tiller with his two most famous quarterbacks, Drew Brees and Kyle Orton, at Soldier Field moments after Orton's former team defeated Brees' Saints in December 2008.

"Levi Riggs" - CD

Chapter member Levi Riggs is donating a portion of the proceeds from his first compact disk release (entitled "Levi Riggs"). He is a former prep football standout, former soloist with the Purdue Glee Club and now a country singer, who performed during the NFF Charity Concert.

Support the chapter by purchasing any of these items, please complete this form and return it to the address below. For tax purposes, the NFF local chapter's ID# is 20-2151811 and the National Football Foundation's ID# is 221-50-8812.

All proceeds go to scholarships.

"Honors Dinner 2010" DVD _____ X \$25 each = \$ _____

"Ross-Ade Panorama" photo: _____ X \$50 each = \$ _____

"Mackey Arena Panorama" photo: _____ X \$50 each = \$ _____

"Tiller Roast & Toast" DVD: _____ X \$20 each = \$ _____

Tiller/Brees/Orton color photo: _____ X \$15 each = \$ _____

Levi Riggs CD: _____ X \$15 each = \$ _____

One-year NFF membership _____ X \$40 each = \$ _____

Three-year NFF membership _____ X \$99 each = \$ _____

Prices include shipping and handling TOTAL = \$ _____

Name: _____ Company Name: _____ Email Address: _____

Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Indicate here if you are interested in helping to sponsor a scholarship.

Yes, I'm interested _____

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, 320 Dehart St., West Lafayette, IN 47906-2730.)



NATIONAL FOOTBALL FOUNDATION & COLLEGE FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME, INC.
JOE TILLER CHAPTER OF NORTHWEST INDIANA
320 DEHART STREET
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OUR WEB SITE:
WWW.NFFTILLERCHAPTER.ORG

HERRMANN EARNS RECOGNITION AS COLLEGE FOOTBALL ELITE

Former Purdue quarterback Mark Herrmann will be honored on the field of Ross-Ade Stadium during the Purdue-Wisconsin game, Nov. 6, as the Boilermakers' next entry into the College Football Hall of Fame.

For the second time in four years, the Joe Tiller Chapter of Northwest Indiana is celebrating the fruits of its "behind the scenes" labors in efforts to help get more players with ties to Northwest Indiana into the College Football Hall of Fame. Former Purdue quarterback Mike Phipps was selected in 2006.

A unanimous All-American in 1980, Herrmann graduated from Purdue as the most prolific passer in NCAA history, holding nine NCAA passing records including passing yards (9,188) and completions (707).

A four-year starter under center, Herrmann became the first quarterback in NCAA history to throw for 8,000 yards in a career and would finish as the first quarterback to throw for 9,000 yards. The offensive MVP of both the Peach and Bluebonnet Bowls, the quarterback threw for a then- Bluebonnet Bowl record 303 yards. A First Team All-Big Ten selection in 1980, Herrmann led the Boilermakers to a Liberty Bowl victory his senior year after finishing fourth in Heisman Trophy voting the same year. He finished his career at Purdue with 71 touchdown passes and still holds the school record for single-season completion percentage (.658).

"I just had a fantastic college experience," says Herrmann. "Those four years at Purdue shaped my life and the ongoing interaction with Purdue continues to be a focal point for me and my family. Without Purdue's offer of a football scholarship, none of this would have happened. I have a degree from a great institution that has continued to support me and my family year after year. I especially want to thank the people in the athletic department and in the local chapter of the National Football Foundation for all their encouragement and efforts to make this happen. I am thrilled ... and I look forward to being inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame."

Selected in the fourth round of the 1981 NFL Draft by the Denver Broncos, Herrmann played for six teams during an 11-year NFL career before retiring from the Indianapolis Colts in 1992.

Following his NFL career, Herrmann served as the associate director of Education Programs for the NCAA. He has been involved in his community as well, spending time on both the Lawrence Township Foundation Board and the National Institute for Fitness and Sport Youth Fitness Board. He and his wife Susie



Above: 2010 College Football Hall of Fame selectee Mark Herrmann is interviewed by NFF Chapter Board Member Nate Barrett during presentations at the annual Honors Dinner in June. Mark will be honored on the field of Ross-Ade Stadium during the Purdue-Wisconsin game Nov. 6 and at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York City Dec. 7.

have three children, and they reside in Indianapolis.

Herrmann is the fifth former Boilermaker player in the Hall of Fame, joining Cecil Isbell (1967), Bob Griese (1984), Leroy Keyes (1990) and Phipps (2006).

WODICKA IS TOP SCHOLAR ATHLETE

Continued from Front Page

Saltanovitz, Schmidt and Wodicka -- were singled out by judges as finalists for the Scholar Athlete of the Year Award, based 40 percent on academics, 40 percent on athletics, and 20 percent on citizenship and character.

Wodicka, who was an all-state wide receiver as a junior before converting to quarterback last fall, emerged as the winner. Along with being valedictorian of his senior class, receiving a state award for his work in the "Best Buddies Program" and being chosen as Mr. Football for the entire state of Indiana, Daniel led the Red Devils to a perfect 15-0 season and the Class 3A State Championship. He capped it all off in mid-July when he was named Most Valuable Player after leading his North team to a come-from-behind, 24-21 overtime victory over the South in the annual Indiana High School All-Star Game. He will attend Johns Hopkins University this fall to play football and study bio-medical engineering.

Including this year's totals, the NFF's Joe Tiller Chapter has honored 98 scholar athletes and awarded approximately \$112,000 worth of scholarships, honorariums and grants in its first six years.

The chapter is always seeking partners and sponsors for scholarship packages, which are tax-deductible. Interested parties may contact the executive director at 765-427-3303 or via email at jvruiggink@purdue.edu.

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Above: A set of bookends is what the Wodicka Family now possesses after Daniel (right) picked up his trophy as Northwest Indiana's Scholar Athlete of the Year for 2010, matching his brother James who won the same award in 2007.

IMPORTANT DATES:

September 4, 2010: Purdue Football Season Opener at Notre Dame

September 11, 2010: Purdue Football Home Opener vs. Western Illinois

November 6, 2010: Mark Herrmann's College Football Hall of Fame presentation at Purdue home game vs. Wisconsin

December 7, 2010: Mark Herrmann's College Football Hall of Fame Induction