



IMPRESSIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS EARN RECOGNITION AT JUNE 10 HONORS DINNER

Celebrating our legends and creating new ones is this year's focus of the National Football Foundation's Joe Tiller Chapter of Northwest Indiana.

Olympic Gold Medalist David Boudia, Miss Indiana MerrieBeth Cox and NFL Executive of the Year Ryan Grigson tallied some pretty impressive accomplishments in the last year. Now, they will be the primary honorees at the NFF Honors Dinner "Celebrating Our Legends IX" on Monday, June 10, at the Purdue Memorial Union Ballrooms in West Lafayette.

Among the speakers and presenters on stage will be Purdue's new football coach Darrell Hazell, emeritus football coach Joe Tiller and director of the athletics Morgan Burke while Purdue President Mitch Daniels and New Orleans Saints All-Pro quarterback Drew Brees will provide video presentations.

In addition, two young men will be named Scholar-Athlete of the Year Award – one representing Northwest Indiana and the other representing Northeast Indiana.

Seven high school football standouts have been singled out by NFF judges as the finalists from a group of 29 scholar-athletes nominated by their coaches from throughout Northern Indiana. The finalists are Austin Brown of Griffith, Spenser Kersey of Lowell, Jacob Layton of Tri-County, Sam McKay of Lafayette Jeff, Justin Miller of Eastside, Brandon Rooze of Benton Central and Ryan Spesard of Carroll. The two



Ryan Grigson, Colts GM - NFL Executive of the Year

winners who emerge will both be candidates for the first-ever Indiana Scholar-Athlete of the Year Award, presented by AdvoCare.

The "competition" is based 40 percent on academics, 40 percent on athletics and 20 percent on citizenship, leadership and character. The state's top scholar-athlete will be announced in Indianapolis in mid-July in conjunction with the North-South All-Star Game and will be a candidate for the Midwest Scholar-Athlete of the Year honor.

This year's Honors Dinner award recipients represent a wide range of talent and charm.

Boudia accomplished the ultimate dream, winning an Olympic Gold Medal in platform diving last summer in London with a spectacular finish on the final day of the Olympics after earning a Bronze Medal in synchronized diving during the first week of the event. The Noblesville, Ind., product, who earned six NCAA championships and eight Big Ten championships while diving for Purdue, became the star judge on the ABC television series "Splash" this spring. He will be awarded the chapter's Gold Medallion.

Cox, who has been Purdue's Golden Girl for the past five years, capped off a great year as Miss Indiana by advancing to the top 12 in the Miss America Pageant in Las Vegas earlier this year. The Roselle, Ill., product came to Purdue as a world class baton twirler and won numerous national championships. She will perform at the Honors Dinner and will receive the "Purdue is Proud of You" Award. She will graduate from Purdue next December after student teaching in Indianapolis this fall.

Grigson, a former Highland High School and Purdue University football player, became the Indianapolis Colts General Manager last year and transformed the Colts into a playoff team through many tough decisions and brilliant acquisitions to earn the honor of NFL Executive of the Year. He will receive the chapter's Drew Brees Mental Toughness Award.

Grigson, a high school all-star at Highland, was a three-year starter on the offensive line and 1994 team captain at Purdue, prior to being drafted sixth by the Cincinnati Bengals in the 1995 NFL Draft. He spent the '95 and '96 seasons with the Detroit Lions and had a stint with the Toronto Argonauts of the Canadian Football League in 1997.



David Boudia - Olympic Gold & Bronze Medalist

He became a pro scout for the Saskatchewan Roughriders of the CFL in 1998 as well as an assistant coach for McPherson College the same year. Grigson made a stop with the Buffalo Destroyers (AFL) as the team's player personnel coordinator/assistant coach before joining the scouting staff of the St. Louis Rams. He rapidly rose through the NFL scouting and executive ranks with the Rams and Philadelphia Eagles and was named GM of the Colts in January of 2012. During his 13 years in the NFL, he has been part of teams that have made the playoffs on nine occasions, including three trips to the

Continued on pg. 4

KERRIGAN GOLF OUTING MAY 3RD SUCCESSFUL

Despite a few raindrops, the Ryan Kerrigan/12th Boiler Golf Outing was a success.

With 60 golfers and lots of donated products and services, the 18-hole scramble netted nearly \$6,000 in profits for the two scholarship funds. Two-thirds of the net profits will be donated to the John Purdue Club's 12th Boiler Fund, which endows a football scholarship. The other one-third goes to the NFF Scholarship Fund to help provide assistance for high school seniors throughout Northwest Indiana in the name of Ryan Kerrigan.

Besides Kerrigan, a few other Boilermaker alumni players were on hand including Leroy Keyes, Roosevelt Colvin, Calvin Williams and Dan Dierking. New head football coach Darrell Hazell, Miss Indiana MerrieBeth Cox and Purdue Pete also took part, but did not play. (See the next page for pictures from the event.)



PURDUE QUARTERBACK ROB HENRY (right) signs an autograph for Mikale Willis, who was a guest of Dream Season regular Jimmy Haffner, left, who is dealing with Cerebral Palsy. Henry was among 35 Boilermaker players, 50 members of the Purdue Pep Band, Gold Dusters and twirling teams, an ROTC color guard and a staff of 10 volunteers who assisted with the second annual Dream Bowl activities in the Mollenkopf Center on Jan. 11. The event is the collegiate version of Dream Season, a concept created by Tiller Chapter members Chris and Clay Oppy to provide a football experience for people of "special" needs, more than 50 of whom attended this year. Chapter member Mike Cleff, sports anchor for WLFI-TV, served as emcee for the "bowl" which featured six football activity stations and lots of surrounding football ambiance. For more information, check out www.DreamSeason.net.

HIGH SCHOOL PLAYERS HONORED THIS SPRING

The Joe Tiller Chapter of Northwest Indiana and the Indiana Football Coaches Association of Regions 1 and 4 are dedicated to honoring the high school senior football players listed below for their excellence this past season. They are being recognized at two events – the IFCA Hall of Fame Banquet in Merrillville on May 5 and the NFF Honors Dinner in West Lafayette on June 10.

The NFF Scholar-Athletes (nominated by their head coaches and principals and selected by a panel of judges) for Northwest Indiana are: Matt Anderson (Andean), Braxton Berkshire (Logansport), Austin Brown (Griffith), Kyle Catherman (Wheeler), Rashaan Coleman (Portage), Michael Duane (Fountain Central), Kevin Fekete (Chesterton), Brody Forbes (West Lafayette), Sean Jones (Crown Point) Hunter Hickman (Rensselaer), Spenser Kersey (Lowell), Andrew Kittridge (Valparaiso), Mitchell Kotterman (Harrison), Jacob Layton (Tri-County), Nick Mack (McCutcheon), Sam McKay (Lafayette Jefferson), Jimmy Mills (Lafayette Central Catholic), Justin Pennington (River Forest), Brandon Rooze (Benton Central), Zachary Shidler (Winamac), Ryan Spesard (Carroll), Eric Stull (Covington), Ryan Walker (Clinton Prairie) and Ethan Witting (Munster).

The NFF Scholar-Athletes from the Northeast Indiana Chapter who will be honored as part of our events this year are: Brandon Curry (Northwestern), Brian Gerber (Bluffton), Justin Miller (Eastside), Zac Schultz (Maconaquah) and Adam Whisler (Fort Wayne Snider).

The IFCA Region 1 All-Stars (nominated by their football coaches and selected by a committee of coaches) are: Jalen Alston (East Chicago), Tyler Birky and Joel Bolen (Kankakee Valley), Austin Brown (Griffith), Rashaan Coleman (Portage), Aaron Del Grosso (Hobart), Larunte Fairley (East Chicago), Dennis Fielder (Andean), Ryley Harlow (Chesterton), Dean Hill (Boone Grove), Mike Hines (Lake Central), Torre Hopson (Gary West Side), Justin Jendreas (Whiting), Sean Jones (Crown Point), Spenser Kersey (Lowell), Andrew Kittridge (Valparaiso), Zack Kogut (Andean), Quenton Lacy-Blackwell (Merrillville), Curtis Lee (Gary West Side), Mark Lukacek (Kankakee Valley), Michael Oljace (Lake Central), Ronald Scott (Hammond Morton), Nick Serrato (Andean), Stephen Simms (Valparaiso), A.J. Snyder (Chesterton), Luke Taylor (Lake Central), Joe Troop (Chesterton) and Gerald Valenzuela (Hobart) along with manager Bradley Brayfield (Merrillville).

The IFCA Region 4 All-Stars (nominated by their football coaches and selected by a committee of coaches) are: Chance Ault (Caston), Braxton Berkshire (Logansport), Ramsen Bet-Nimrod (Rochester), Bo Bullard (Logansport), Ross Corcoran (Lafayette Central Catholic), Brent Cothran (South Newton), Michael Duane (Fountain Central), McHale Gardiner (Twin Lakes), Garrett Gray (Benton Central), Michael Hamilton (West Central), Colin Hileman (North White), Will Jones (Lafayette Central Catholic), Luke Knutson (Lewis Cass), Josh Lytle (Pioneer), Chantz Marlatt (West Central), Sam McKay (Lafayette Jefferson), Brent Midkiff (North Newton), Joe Miller (Pioneer), Timothy Mills (Lafayette Central Catholic), Matt Muncy (McCutcheon), Ralph Myars (Frankfort), Jon O'Dell (Rochester), Brandon Rooze (Benton Central), Matt Schmidt (Harrison), Drew Shepard (Lewis Cass), Zach Shidler (Winamac), Quinton Skibinski (West Lafayette) and Ryan Spesard (Carroll) along with manager Tori Welsh (South Newton).



Ryan Kerrigan/12th Boiler Golf Outing

Presented by Purdue Trademark and Licensing

Boilermaker Golf Complex • West Lafayette, IN • May 3, 2013



Ryan Kerrigan with Miss Indiana MerrieBeth Cox



Leroy Keyes (left) & Rosevelt Colvin with MerrieBeth Cox



Fearsome Foursome - Golfers (left to right) are Jeff Grantham, Calvin Williams, David Wilson and Paul Sline

NFF ORDER FORM

"Honors Dinner" on DVD - 2010/2011/2012*

DVD copies of the program of the 2010, 2011 and 2012 Honors Dinner events, feature the presentations, comments and "celebrity" appearances of some of Purdue's most famous athletes and personalities who were part of June events the last three years. You'll especially enjoy the interviews of honorees Len Dawson, Bob Griese, Drew Brees, Mark Herrmann, Joe McConnell and Daniel Wodicka on the 2010 DVD and Neil Armstrong, Eugene Cernan, Jerry Ross, Leroy Keyes, Ryan Kerrigan, Joe Tiller and Brees on the 2011 DVD, plus Otis Armstrong, Frank O'Shea, Tom Ransom and Tiller on the 2012 DVD.

"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.

"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.

"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 Boiler-maker 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.

"NFF Lapel Pin" - New Logo

This item, featuring the NFF's new logo, will look sharp on your coat lapel, jacket or shirt and will support our scholarship fund.

"NFF Autograph Football"

This close-out item is now selling for half price (\$25 instead of \$50)...it measures 9-inches long and has a white panel suitable for autographs.

To 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 ea. = \$ _____
 "Honors Dinner 2011" DVD* _____ X \$25 ea. = \$ _____
 "Honors Dinner 2012" DVD* _____ X \$25 ea. = \$ _____
 "Tiller Roast & Toast" DVD: _____ X \$20 ea. = \$ _____
 "Ross-Ade Panorama" photo: _____ X \$50 ea. = \$ _____
 "Mackey Arena Panorama" photo: _____ X \$50 ea. = \$ _____
 NFF Lapel Pin (with new logo): _____ X \$15 ea. = \$ _____
 NFF Autograph Football (half price) _____ X \$25 ea. = \$ _____
 One-year NFF membership _____ X \$40 ea. = \$ _____
 Three-year NFF membership _____ X \$99 ea. = \$ _____
 Donation to Scholarship Fund _____ = \$ _____
Prices include shipping and handling **TOTAL = \$ _____**

NFF MEMBERS: The Board of Directors appreciates your past and current support and asks you to continue to renew your memberships (\$40 per year or \$99 for three years) when they become due. Unfortunately, many members have allowed their memberships to lapse recently. As you know, only dues-paying members receive ballots in the selection process each March for the College Football Hall of Fame. Also, part of your dues comes back to the 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 status, please contact Jim Vrugink (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 changes in address, email or phone. Thanks.

NFF Honors Dinner "Celebrating Our Legends IX"

Monday, June 10, at Purdue Memorial Union in West Lafayette with Silent Auction and Reception at 5 p.m. EDT, Dinner at 6:30 p.m., and Awards Program at 7:30 p.m., and VIP Dessert Reception at 9:15 p.m.

Non-NFF members: _____ x \$55 ea. = \$ _____
 NFF members*/non-member student: _____ x \$45 ea. = \$ _____
 NFF member students*#: _____ x \$35 ea. = \$ _____
 Tables of eight*#: _____ x \$400 ea. = \$ _____
 (or \$320 each for members or \$280 each for students)
 VIP Dessert Reception: _____ x \$100 ea. = \$ _____
 Raffle Tickets (after May 1)+: _____ x \$ 5 ea. = \$ _____
 One-year NFF membership: _____ x \$40 ea. = \$ _____
 Three-year NFF membership: _____ x \$99 ea. = \$ _____
TOTAL = \$ _____

*NFF members get price break & priority seating, if ordered by May 28;
 #Student rate applies thru college age
 Tickets will NOT be mailed.

+Featuring valuable autographed items and pending approval by State Gaming Commission. No sales until after license is secured.

Indicate here if you are interested in participating in the Ryan Kerrigan 12th Boiler Fund golf outing on May 3 _____.

Indicate here if you are interested in helping to sponsor a scholarship.
 Yes, I'm interested _____.

**GRAND TOTAL FROM
BOTH LISTS
(Pay with one Check) \$ _____**

Name: _____ Company Name: _____ Email Address: _____

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

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 Chapter 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
 WEST LAFAYETTE, IN 47906 -2730

UPCOMING EVENTS

Jun. 10, 2013 – NFF Honors Dinner, Purdue Memorial Union, West Lafayette
 Aug. 31, 2013 – Purdue Football Season Opener at U. of Cincinnati

NEW COACH, MISS INDIANA AMONG JUNE HONOREES & SPEAKERS

Continued from pg. 1
 Super Bowl.

The chapter's Distinguished American Award this year goes to Noble Kizer, long-time Lafayette resident, chapter member and son of Noble E. Kizer, one of Purdue's greatest coaches and early athletic directors prior to his death at age 40, nearly 73 years ago. The award is to recognize both Kizers for their outstanding accomplishments and loyalty to our nation.

Also, the chapter will honor Mark Ebelhar, who stepped down last fall after 27 years of volunteer work with West Lafayette Little Gridiron, including the last 15 as head of the program. He helped to coach and guide many young players who eventually went on to play high school and college football. Ebelhar will receive the Bernie Flowers Award for Outstanding Contribution to Amateur Football Award.

This year's Courage Award, which is sponsored by the Lafayette Journal & Courier, will have co-recipients -- six-year-old Cooper Fulmer of Winamac and 18-year-old Patrick Mackey of Lafayette, for their inspirational battles with leukemia that tied together the athletic communities for Winamac and Lafayette Central Catholic high schools in a uniquely emotional manner.

Among this year's presenters will be a new face, Coach Hazell, who became Purdue's head coach in December after leading the Kent State Golden Flashes to an 11-2 record and the school's first national ranking and bowl trip in 40 years, earning the honor as Mid-American Conference Coach of the Year.

The Cinnaminson, NJ, product is a graduate of Muskingum College in Ohio and spent 24 years in 11 different assistant coaching positions at eight colleges or universities, including seven years at Ohio State. Hazell will speak briefly at the Honors Dinner and will help present one of the awards.



Darrell Hazell



MerrieBeth Cox



Noble Kizer



Joe Tiller

High school singing sensation Karli Edging of Delphi will perform a patriotic tribute prior to dinner.

In addition, the dinner in West Lafayette will pay tribute to the 28 players and one manager chosen as Region 4 all-stars, all of whom were candidates to compete for positions on the North Squad for the annual North-South All-Star Game this July in Indianapolis.

Table prices are the same as last year for a table of eight (\$400 for general public, \$320 for NFF chapter members and honorees' families, and \$280 for students). Single tickets are \$55 for public, \$45 for members and \$35 for students. VIP Dessert Reception tickets are \$100 each for a chance to meet the honorees.

As a non-profit organization, this chapter has awarded nearly \$147,000 in grants, scholarships and honorariums plus another \$43,000 to

other charities since receiving its charter in the fall of 2004.

Besides 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 eight years, this chapter has recognized 144 scholar-athletes and awarded them between \$250 and \$5,000 each.

The tax-deductible membership dues are \$40 per year or \$99 for three years, payable to the National Football Foundation. The NFF has 121 chapters and more than 12,000 members, nationally, and awards more than \$1 million in scholarships each year. The chapter is seeking partners and sponsors for scholarship packages, which are also tax-deductible.

ORDER DEADLINE MAY 28 FOR MEMBERS, SPONSORS, FAMILIES OF HONOREES

The 2013 "Celebrating Our Legends" Honors Dinner promises to draw another very large crowd to the Purdue Memorial Union Ballrooms on June 10. Sales and seating priorities are being offered first to chapter members, sponsors and families of the honorees with a priority deadline of May 28.

Prices for the Honors Dinner are ... \$35 each for NFF-member students, \$45 each for non-member students and NFF members and \$55 each for non-NFF members. Sponsors and families of honorees are considered members.

Also, tickets are available for \$100 each to the VIP Dessert Reception, which will allow access to the honorees and posed pictures following the dinner. Proceeds from the VIP Reception will go to support the NFF Scholarship Program. See the order form on page 3 and call 765-427-3303 for more information.



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