



NATIONAL FOOTBALL FOUNDATION & COLLEGE FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME, INC.  
 JOE TILLER CHAPTER OF NORTHWEST INDIANA  
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 OUR WEB SITE:  
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## NFF AWARDS DINNER FEATURES BLEND OF PREP, COLLEGE AND PROS

Continued from Front Page

Prior to Brees accomplishing the feat in February, Dawson won in 1971 and Griese did the same in 1976. 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 became the only unbeaten, untied team in NFL history. 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.

In receiving the Gold Medallion, the QB trio will earn the chapter's highest honor, 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 this NFF chapter, which is now the fourth largest in the nation among 120 chapters.

In addition to receiving the Gold Medallion, Brees will present the chapter's Drew Brees Mental Toughness Award to a player of his choice.

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

A total of 27 high school football players from the 18 counties of Northwest Indiana that encompass the Joe Tiller Chapter will receive scholarship assistance 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), Der-

rick McQuiston (Logansport), Keifer Morgan (Munster), Scott Moore (Fountain Central), Nicholas Morris (Benton Central), Phillip Newbill (Maconaquah), Clay Oppy (McCutcheon), 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 Daniel Wodicka (West Lafayette).

Six of these young men -- Burns, Heater, Moore, Saltanovitz, Schmidt and Wodicka -- have been 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. The winner will be announced at the Honors Dinner.

The chapter is 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 [jvruggink@purdue.edu](mailto:jvruggink@purdue.edu).



Akin Ayodele receiving the 2009 Drew Brees Mental Toughness Award



# NFF

## Joe Tiller Chapter of Northwest Indiana

"Building leaders through football"

VOLUME FOUR

ISSUE TWO

MAY 2010

### MEMBERS HAVE JUNE 1 DEADLINE FOR PRIORITY SEATING AT NFF DINNER; SELLOUT EXPECTED

BREES, DAWSON, GRIESE PLUS 27 PREP ATHLETES TO BE HONORED  
 JUNE 22 AT PURDUE UNION

National Football Foundation members, sponsors and families of honorees will have top priority for seating at the sixth annual NFF Honors Dinner as long as they place their orders and submit their payments before June 1.

The event, scheduled for June 22 and co-hosted by the National Football Foundation's Joe Tiller Chapter of Northwest Indiana and Purdue University's Gimlet Leadership Honorary, is expected to sell out.

Purdue's three Super Bowl Champion quarterbacks will highlight an evening of awards and celebration as Drew Brees, Len Dawson and Bob Griese appear together for the first time ever in West Lafayette.

Tickets are selling quickly for "Celebrating Our Legends VI" at the Purdue Memorial Union Ballrooms. The dinner will also include the presentation of scholarships and honorariums to 27 high school scholar athletes who are headed to college in the fall. Last year, 413 football fans attended the fifth annual event, but this year's crowd may double that, according to Jim Vrugink, the executive director of the local chapter, citing that more than 500 tickets for this year's event were requested by May 5.

"Within a few hours after New Orleans won the Super Bowl, I was inundated with questions from previous attendees wanting to know if Drew would attend this year's Honors Dinner as he had the previous five," said Vrugink. "When I assured them he would, the ticket orders started rolling in. And, now that our board has de-

ecided to honor the three Super Bowl Champion quarterbacks by presenting our Gold Medallion Award to them, I predict we will sell out this event (capacity will be about 750) well in advance.

"Sales and seating priority are offered to our chapter members, sponsors and families of honorees until the end of May," adds Vrugink, "and we will close off all sales no later than June 16 in order to properly prepare for the event, which is bound to be the biggest and best the chapter has had."

This year's event will begin at 5:00 p.m. with a silent auction reception that also serves as an autograph session for Purdue Head Coach Danny Hope and some select former and current Boilermakers. Brees, Dawson and Griese will not take part in that session but will join other honorees at a VIP Reception elsewhere in the building.

Dinner prices are \$35 each for students college age and younger (\$280 for a table of eight), \$40 each for NFF members (\$320 for a table of eight), and \$50 per person for non-NFF member adults (\$400 for a table of eight non-members). Cost of attending the VIP Reception is \$200 per person with all proceeds going to charities.

Purdue now matches Alabama as the only universities in the nation to have three alumni as Super Bowl Champion quarterbacks. The Crimson Tide claims Bart Starr, Joe Namath and Kenny Stabler.

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### CHARITY CONCERT, GOLF OUTING RAISE SCHOLARSHIP MONEY

The Mar. 7 NFF Charity Concert and the Apr. 16 NFF/12th Boiler Golf Scramble were both great successes, netting approximately \$5,000 for the chapter's Scholarship Fund.

The "first-time" charity concert, thanks to the talents of chapter member Levi Riggs and the efforts of the Gimlet Leadership Honorary, 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

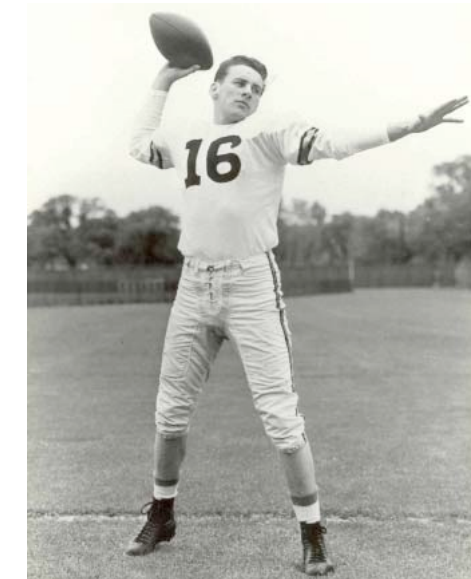
Scholarship Fund.

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.

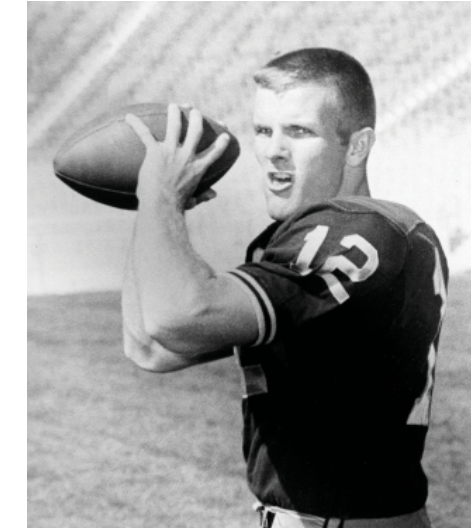
Once all the bills are paid, this event should "net" each fund more than \$1,900 this year thanks to the participation by 56 golfers. Last year's scramble "netted" \$375 for each fund with participation by 34 golfers.



Drew Brees



Len Dawson



Bob Griese

#### IMPORTANT DATES

**June 1:** Priority seating deadline for NFF members, sponsors

**June 16:** Final deadline for ticket and sponsorship sales

**June 22:** NFF Honors Dinner, Purdue Memorial Union, West Lafayette

**June 23:** Brees Dream Foundation Golf Outing, Purdue Golf Complex, West Lafayette



# NFF

## Joe Tiller Chapter of Northwest Indiana

*“Building leaders through football”*

### 2010 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:** None

**2009 Honoree:** None

**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:** Winner to be announced June 22

#### DREW BRES MENTAL TOUGHNESS AWARD

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

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

#### 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:** None

### NOMINATION FORM

(Submit by January 15, 2011, to Jim Vruggink via phone at 765-427-3303, email at [jvruggink@purdue.edu](mailto: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 \_\_\_\_\_

### 2009-10 CHAPTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**PRESIDENT** - Bart Burrell



Bart Burrell

**VICE PRESIDENTS** -

**Finance** - Jeff Love

**Sales** - Dave McGaughey

**Tiller District Membership** - Bernie Flowers

**Lake Michigan Membership** - John Friend

**Collegiate Program** - Tom Schott

**Scholar-Athlete Program** - Randy Truitt

**Youth Football Program** - David M. Williams

**Events** - Nate Barrett

**Publicity** - Joe Bennett



Jim Vruggink

**ADDITIONAL BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS** -

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Jim MacDonald, Leroy Marsh, Levi Riggs, Henry Rosenthal, David

Schutovske, Jim and Barb Siegfried, Brad Smith, Chris Smith, Jon

Speaker, David R. Williams, and Gimlet Leadership Honorary

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR** - Jonathan Gandolf

**WEBMASTER** - Jon Goldsberry

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** - Jim Vruggink

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433 E. Las Colinas Blvd., Suite 1130

Irving, TX 75039

Phone: 972-556-1000

E-mail: [membership@footballfoundation.com](mailto:membership@footballfoundation.com)

Web site: [www.footballfoundation.com](http://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](mailto:hof@collegefootball.org)

Web site: [aaa.collegefootball.org](http://aaa.collegefootball.org)

### VIP RECEPTION AND RAFFLE ADDED TO JUNE 22 EVENT

For the first time in the six-year history of the NFF Honors Dinner, a VIP Reception has been added, featuring the award winners and honorees along with select sponsors and ticket buyers.

Purdue’s three Super Bowl Champion quarterbacks – Drew Brees, Len Dawson and Bob Griese – will be among the honorees during a 60-minute social hour. No autographs will be given, but a professional photographer will be available to take posed pictures of each ticket-buying guest with the honorees of their choice. The size of this exclusive event will be limited. The price is \$200 per person and does not include the dinner ticket. Proceeds from the VIP Reception will be shared among the favorite charities of the three quarterbacks and the NFF Scholarship Fund.

Special high quality autographed items provided by Brees,

Dawson, Griese, other honorees, sponsors and area businesses will be available through the Honors Dinner Raffle. Raffle tickets may be purchased in advance or during the events of June 22 for \$5 each. Organizers hope to sell a thousand tickets and plan to have hundreds of donated prizes valued at \$20 or more. Proceeds will go to the NFF Scholarship Fund.

Tickets for the VIP Reception and the Honors Dinner Raffle may be purchased via the form below. Tickets bought in advance will be distributed during registration in Room 110 or 112 at the Purdue Memorial Union, near the Great Hall and Lounge where the Silent Auction Reception and free autograph session will be staged beginning at 5 p.m. that day.

### NFF ORDER FORM

#### Annual Honors Dinner “Celebrating Our Legends VI”

Tuesday, June 22, at Purdue Memorial Union in West Lafayette with Silent Auction and Reception beginning at 5 p.m., VIP Reception at 5:45 p.m., Buffet Dinner at 6:45 p.m., and Awards Program at 7:45 p.m.

Non-NFF members: \_\_\_\_\_ X \$50 ea. = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

NFF members\*/non-member student: \_\_\_\_\_ X \$40 ea. = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

NFF member students\*#: \_\_\_\_\_ X \$35 ea. = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Tables of eight\*#: \_\_\_\_\_ X \$400 ea. = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(or \$320 each for members or \$280 each for students)

Raffle Tickets+: \_\_\_\_\_ X \$5 ea. = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

VIP Reception: \_\_\_\_\_ X \$200 ea. = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

One-year NFF membership \_\_\_\_\_ X \$40 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Three-year NFF membership \_\_\_\_\_ X \$99 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\*NFF members get price break & priority seating, if ordered by June 1; #Student rate applies thru college age.

+ Featuring autographed items from Drew Brees, Len Dawson, Bob Griese and others

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

Yes, I’m interested \_\_\_\_\_

Names of Your Guests for Honors Dinner \_\_\_\_\_

**GRAND TOTAL FROM BOTH LISTS (Pay with one check) .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Jim Vruggink by email ([jvruggink@purdue.edu](mailto: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. Tickets will NOT be mailed.)

#### “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, Roosevelt 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 will perform 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.

“Tiller Roast & Toast” DVD: \_\_\_\_\_ X \$20 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Prices include shipping and handling TOTAL = \$ \_\_\_\_\_