



## THE JOE TILLER CHAPTER OF NORTHWEST INDIANA

VOLUME THREE

ISSUE THREE

JANUARY 2009

# TILLER ROAST TO FEATURE FORMER PLAYERS, COACHES

Boilermaker fans will bid a final farewell to the winningest football coach in Purdue history with the Joe Tiller Roast and Toast Saturday, Jan. 24, at the University Plaza Hotel Ballroom in West Lafayette. The event is co-sponsored by the John Purdue Club and the National Football Foundation/College Football Hall of Fame's Joe Tiller Chapter. Ticket sales are going well, according event organizer Jim Vrugink, the executive director of the NFF chapter.

"We are offering a special ticket price to NFF members, JPC members and former players and coaches as long as they order by Jan. 16. After that we will open up sales to the general public," says Vrugink. "We expect to have a sellout crowd of approximately 425."

A host of coaches, former Boilermaker players and media personalities will take parting shots at Tiller, who retired in 2008 as the Boilermakers' head coach after a 12-year, 87-win career in which he brought Purdue football back to national prominence. Tiller's teams went to bowl games 10 times, including an appearance in the 2001 Rose Bowl.

Penn State coach Joe Paterno and NFL players Drew Brees, Roosevelt Colvin, Matt Light, Stu Schweigert, and Kyle Orton are among roasters and toasters who have been invited to participate, either in-person or through video messages at the dinner. "Every true Boilermaker football fan is grateful to Joe Tiller for the excellence he brought to the program," said Bart Burrell, president of the NFF chapter.

Burrell, who starred as a wide receiver for Purdue in the late

1970s, said Tiller's impact extends far beyond Ross-Ade Stadium.

"When Joe brought the spread formation to Purdue, he transformed the Big Ten," Burrell said. "The other coaches had to figure out how to defend it. Then they started using it. Today, nearly every successful team in the country uses some variation of the spread, and Joe was a pioneer.

"Besides being a great coach, Joe is a guy with a great sense of humor. The Roast and Toast will give us all a chance to have fun with him and his wife, Arnette, while we show him how much we value what he did for Purdue."

Others invited to participate in the evening's program include Tiller's successor at Purdue, head coach Danny Hope, former Boilermaker men's basketball coach Gene Keady, former Wisconsin football coach Barry Alvarez, former Purdue assistants Brock Spack (new head coach at Illinois State) and Scott Downing (head coach at Northern Colorado), and media members Joe McConnell (Purdue radio network) and Tom Kubat (Lafayette Journal & Courier).

The Jan. 24 event will include a 5:30 p.m. reception with dinner starting a 6:30 and the program at 7:30. Tickets are \$45 for the general public; \$40 for former players and coaches; and \$35 for members of the John Purdue Club or National Football Foundation.

Interested members should use the attached order form to request tickets.

For more information or to make reservations, contact Jim Vrugink at 765-494-2086 or [jvrugink@purdue.edu](mailto:jvrugink@purdue.edu)

## GROUP SEEKS MEMORABILIA FOR MACKEY 'RING OF HONOR'

Purdue fans are asked to search their closets, drawers, basements, and attics for possible Boilermaker basketball memorabilia that they are willing to donate or loan to the Intercollegiate Athletics Department for possible display in the "Ring of Honor" in the renovated Mackey Arena.

With renovation plans nearing completion, an Indianapolis design firm, RLR Associates has been contracted to design the concourse displays of Mackey. This is the same company that designed the concourse areas of Conseco Fieldhouse in Indianapolis.

"We are looking for objects and elements to supplement the materials we already have in our athletic archives," says Tom Schott, assistant athletic director for communications. "We have lots of paper objects like programs, media guides, newspaper articles, and so on ... But, we are short on uniforms, rings, trophies, and other pieces of memorabilia representing the success of our basketball programs."

Interested donors should contact Tom at 765-494-3145 or Jim Vrugink at 765-494-2086 for more details.



### UPCOMING CHAPTER EVENTS:

January 24, 2009 - Joe Tiller "Roast & Toast," University Plaza Hotel  
June 23, 2009 - NFF Honors Dinner, University Plaza Hotel

▸ 320 DEHART ST., WEST LAFAYETTE, IN 47906 ▸ 765.494.2086 ▸



NATIONAL FOOTBALL FOUNDATION  
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BUILDING LEADERS THROUGH FOOTBALL





# THE JOE TILLER CHAPTER OF NORTHWEST INDIANA

## 2009 HONORS DINNER AWARDS DEADLINE JAN. 31

### 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 late winter or early spring 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: To be determined

### 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, game 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 Sportsmedicine/Unity Health Care  
2008 Honoree: Brad Smith of Attica, Indiana Football Coaches Association  
2009 Honoree: To be determined

### DREW BREES COLLEGE OR PRO 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.

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: Drew Brees of the San Diego Chargers  
2006 Honoree: Rob Ninkovich of Purdue University  
2007 Honoree: Rosevelt Colvin of the New England Patriots  
2008 Honoree: Nick Hardwick of the San Diego Chargers  
2009 Honoree: To be determined

### 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 recommended 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 All-American, salesman extraordinaire  
2009 Honoree: To be determined

## NOMINATION FORM

(Submit by January 31, 2009 to Jim Vrugink via phone at 765-494-2086, fax at 765-496-2970, 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 \_\_\_\_\_

## 2008-09 CHAPTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**PRESIDENT** - 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

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**ADDITIONAL BOARD MEMBERS** -

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Augie Pence, Henry Rosenthal, Dwayne Greer, David Schutk-

ovske, Aaron Cooke, Charles Shook, Levi Riggs, Dave Huck-

leberry, Jim & Barb Siegfried, Vince Pegan, Gimlet Leadership

Honorary

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR** - Jonathan Gandolf

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** - Jim Vrugink

## CONTACT US

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The National Football Foundation Membership Office

433 E. Las Colinas Blvd., Suite 1130

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



Bart Burrell



Jim Vrugink



# JOE TILLER ROAST AND TOAST



Celebrating the career of the Boilermakers' recently-retired head coach

## SATURDAY, JANUARY 24, 2009

The program will feature former players and coaches from Joe's 12-year career with the Boilermakers as well as special guests from the Purdue University campus. This event is sponsored by the John Purdue Club and the National Football Foundation/College Hall of Fame's Joe Tiller Chapter of Northwest Indiana.

UNIVERSITY PLAZA HOTEL BALLROOM  
US 52 North, West Lafayette

5:30 PM Reception  
6:30 PM Western Buffet Dinner  
7:30 PM "Roast and Toast" Program

### TICKETS

Members of NFF or JPC: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$35.00/person = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Former players or coaches: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$40.00/person = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
General Public: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$45.00/person = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Totals: \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ COMPANY NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY/STATE/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check or money order payable to **NATIONAL FOOTBALL FOUNDATION**, which is a 501 C-3 foundation. Please contact Jim Vruggink by telephone at 765-494-2086 or by email at [jvruggink@purdue.edu](mailto:jvruggink@purdue.edu) if you have any questions, comments or stories about the Tillers or wish to take part in the program.

TICKETS WILL NOT BE MAILED; SEATING ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT RECEPTION. THANK YOU.

MAIL FORM AND PAYMENT TO : NFF Executive Director  
320 Dehart Street  
West Lafayette, IN 47906