

# The National Football Foundation CHAPTER NETWORK



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Building Leaders Through Football

## CHAPTER PLAY-BY-PLAY

The Colorado Chapter held its 14<sup>th</sup> annual scholar-athlete banquet on Feb. 19 in Denver, distributing \$11,000 in scholarships. **Joel Klatt**, former CU Quarterback and color analyst for FSN Rocky Mountain, served as master of ceremonies, and **Marcia Nevil**, a broadcaster with the local CBS affiliate, presented the 11 high school scholar athletes with their \$1,000 awards.

All-Colorado Football Team Players of the Year: **Chris Neal** (Colorado College); **Bryan Florendo** (Colorado School of Mines); **Drew Fowler** (Air Force Academy); **Mason Crosby** (University of Colorado); and coach **Ed Rifilanto** (Fort Lewis College).

Rifilanto coached the Skyhawks to their first postseason victory since 1963 and back-to-back winning seasons for the only the third time in the school's 44-year history. ■

**Howard Vandersea**, president of the **Maine Chapter**, helped with the presentation of the James J. Fitzpatrick Trophy, Maine's most prestigious high school athletic award, to **Jared Turcotte** of Lewiston High School at a Jan. 14 banquet. A 220-pound running back with speed and power, Turcotte ran for 1,813 yards, 7.9 yards per carry, and scored 23 touchdowns. He finished his high school career with 4,562 yards. Turcotte has accepted a full scholarship from the University of Maine.

The chapter helps with the selection process, and Vandersea presented seven semifinalists with plaques. The Chapter will hold its banquet May 22. ■

**Coach Tim Teykl**, a member of the **NFF Touchdown Club of Houston Chapter**, was inducted into the Texas High School Coaches Association's "Ronnie Bell Hall of Honor" at the Greater Houston Regional Coaches Clinic on Feb. 3. Teykl is also a re-



Joel Klatt, Colorado 2002-05

**Troy Calhoun**, the new head football coach at the U.S. Air Force Academy, attended as the keynote speaker. Calhoun replaces **Fisher DeBerry**, who recently retired after 23 years of leading the Falcons. The chapter honored DeBerry at the event with their Joe Kearney Service Award, and **Ron Capra** accepted the John Adams Officiating Award.

Five individuals from the college ranks earned recognition as members of the



Toledo Chapter Scholar-Athlete Ben Bond from Whiteford (MI) High School brightens the day of a patient at the Toledo Children's Hospital.

### A Winning Combination

#### Combining Hospital Visits and Scholar-Athlete Banquets

On March 5, the best and the brightest from the Toledo high school gridiron boarded a school bus and headed to the Toledo Children's Hospital. Their mission: place smiles on the faces of young patients.

The brainchild of chapter vice president Tom Ferguson, the hospital visit set the stage for the 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Toledo Chapter Scholar-Athlete Banquet and the 27 players who would be honored later that day.

"The purpose of the trip was for our chapter to take high schools kids who stood out in their community and let them interact with kids who are having a tough time battling illnesses," said Ferguson, who had participated in a similar trip as part of the Ohio North-South High School All-Star Football Game.

At the hospital, the scholar-athletes passed out footballs to the patients and signed autographs. The sounds of laughter filled the halls of the children's ward. While the original purpose of the trip centered on brightening the day of the patients, the chapter's high school scholar-athletes benefited from the experience too.

"Many of the high school honorees thanked me for the trip and told me how much it meant to them personally," said Ferguson. "It is really rewarding to see that our chapter can not only make a difference in the lives of the youngsters in the hospital, but also that we influenced our high school football players in a very positive manner."

The hospital visit also strengthened the bonds between the scholar-athletes, giving them a chance to interact in yet another setting. The Toledo Chapter intends to make this trip an annual event. ■

cent recipient of the Tom Landry Award from the Texas High School Coaches Association.

The head football coach at Terry High School in Houston, Teykl took over the head coaching job in the spring of 1992. After two losing seasons, Teykl has led his team to the playoffs for 13 consecutive winning seasons. ■



**Tim Teykl**

**Two Minute Drill**

**Auburn Chapter** president **Trey Johnston** added ten new members at a recent chapter barbeque, and Auburn's Athletics Director **Jay Jacobs** has agreed to include a membership application in an upcoming booster mailing... **The East Tennessee (Knoxville) Chapter** added a golf tournament to its schedule of events. Last year the event produced over 200 new members, raising additional funds for the chapter's scholarships. University of Tennessee coaches play as celebrities... **Yale** head coach **Jack Siedlecki** will serve as the keynote speaker for 25<sup>th</sup> **Joe Mewhiney Chapter** (Mass.) Banquet on May 20. **Ken Tucker**, the chapter's president, reports Joe Mewhiney is recovering nicely from a heart attack... **The National Capital (Washington, D.C.) Chapter** will host its first scholar-athlete banquet on March 18. ■

Distributing \$28,000 at its 7<sup>th</sup> annual banquet, the **Central New York (Syracuse) Chapter** honored 51 high school and seven college players Jan. 28. with 550 people in attendance.

**Don McPherson**, former Syracuse University quarterback and first-time candidate on the 2007 College Football Hall of Fame ballot, served as the evening's keynote speaker. The chapter bestowed its Distinguished American Award to College Football Hall of Famer **E. Douglas Kenna**, who played quarterback for Army's 1944 national championship team. Kenna went on to establish himself as a titan in the business world.

Auburn (N.Y.) High School coach **Dave Moskov** accepted coach of the year honors. Liverpool athletics director **George Mangicaro** received an outstanding contributor to amateur football award, and **Frank DeOrio** was recognized as football official of the year.

On another note, Chapter President **Rick Ranucci** has been named a 2006 recipient of the Eastern College Athletic Conference's Red Hill Awards, which recognize the outstanding ECAC Football Officials of the Year. ■



**Don McPherson** (center) is flanked by Central New York Chapter vice presidents **Paul Nojaim** on the left and **Mike Albanese** on the right.



Retiring chapter president **Pat Testa** on the right and his committee. L-R: **Doug Logan, Bob Campese, Paul Nojaim, Don McPherson, Garry Acchione, Rick Ranucci, Ed Ferrante** and **Pat Testa**.



With 250 people in attendance, **The Passaic County (N.J.) Chapter** held its 32<sup>nd</sup> annual awards dinner on Jan. 21. The top scholar-athlete from each of the 15 schools in the county accepted accolades for their combined accomplishments on and off the field. **Dan Garrett**, the head football coach at Kean University (N.J.), took the podium as the event's keynote speaker as each of the high school coaches highlighted the accomplishments of their respective honorees. Behind the leadership of President **Bill Farkas** and Secretary/Treasurer **Dick Moran**, the chapter distributed \$6,000 in scholarships this year. ■