



# NATIONAL FOOTBALL FOUNDATION

## Chapter Newsletter

Winter, 2014

I hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable holiday season. Between innumerable Bowl Games and the NFL, I'm sure you've had as much football as you want. Though the football season is winding down, our Chapter has been very active in recent months.

### NICK PEABODY RECEIVES NATIONAL SCHOLAR-ATHLETE AWARD

The Waldorf Astoria Hotel in mid-town Manhattan was the venue for the National Football Foundation's Chapter Awards Luncheon on December 10. For the second time in the past three years, the Jack Grinold Eastern Massachusetts Chapter is privileged to have one of the five national high school Scholar-athletes honored.

2012 Barnstable High School graduate **Nick Peabody**, who recently completed his freshman season at Princeton University, was selected by the NFF as the top scholar-athlete in the Northeast Region. Peabody, who as quarterback led Barnstable to the 2012 Eastern Massachusetts Super Bowl, was honored along with the top scholar-athletes from the other four regions of the country, the five Chapter Leadership Award recipients, and the Inspiration Award winner.



*From left: Barnstable High School Coach Chris Whidden, Banquet Master of Ceremonies Charles Davis of Fox Sports, Nick Peabody, Nick's father Doug Peabody, Princeton University Head Coach Bob Surace*

Attending the banquet to honor Nick were his father **Doug**, **Chris Whidden** the head coach at Barnstable High School, Princeton University Head Coach **Bob Surace**, Princeton Offensive Coordinator **James Perry**, and Grinold Chapter Executive Director **Roger Crosley**.

The evening following the luncheon, Peabody and the rest of the high school honorees were further honored at the sold out NFF Awards Banquet.

### 2013 SCHOLAR-ATHLETE ALUMNI

In addition to Peabody, several other 2013 Grinold Chapter Scholar-Athlete alumni had outstanding seasons.

- Franklin's **Craig Anderson** was named the New England Football Conference Defensive Rookie of the Year for his play on the defensive line at Endicott College. Anderson started all 11 games for the NEFC Champions and had 66 tackles, including 10 in the NEFC championship game.
- **Chance Brady** received regular reps at running back for Tufts University before injuring his ankle the sixth game. The Haverhill grad averaged nearly six yards per carry on 40 attempts.
- **Vincent Burton** played in 10 games for Stonehill College making the most of his 11 tackles by having 4.5 for loss including 1.5 sacks. Burton is a Blue Hills High School graduate.
- **Alexander Jette**, from North Attleboro, was Brown University's top kick returner averaging 18.5 yards per kickoff return and over nine yards on 16 punt returns. Jette was also the Bruins' backup punter.



Mike Rando

## 2013 SCHOLAR-ATHLETE ALUMNI (continued)

- Tufts kick returner **Mike Rando** of Walpole was first-team New England Small College Athletic Conference return specialist after averaging 23.0 yards on kickoff returns. He brought back 24 overall for 553 yards with a long of 53 yards against Bates.
- **Mike Sterns** of Framingham was Tufts' third leading tackler with 63. Sterns started four games and played in all eight for the Jumbos.

## NEW OFFICER ROTATION

The Grinold Chapter is pleased to announce its slate of officers for 2014 and 2015. **Roger Crosley** will move from President to Past President, but will remain as Executive Director. **Tom Lamb** will become the President, **Bob Holmes** moves to First Vice-President, **Charlie Stevenson** will occupy the Second Vice-President role, and **John McCarthy** will join the Executive Board as Third Vice-President.

**Bill Gorman** remains as Treasurer. **Bob Bancroft** will assume sole chairmanship of the scholar-athlete selection committee after sharing that with **Ed Schluntz** in 2013. **Jim Seavey** continues as Banquet Chairman, and Stevenson will take over as the Clinic Chair.

## ANNUAL NEW BALANCE COACHES CLINIC

The Annual New Balance Grinold Chapter Coaches Clinic will again be held at the Yawkey Center at Boston College. The date is yet to be finalized, but will be either March 8 or 15. The clinic has drawn record numbers in recent years and our thanks to Chapter members **Barry Gallup**, **Steve Addazio**, and **Brad Bates** at Boston College, and New Balance's **Jim Davis** for their support of the Clinic and the Chapter.



## SCHOLAR-ATHLETE BANQUET

This is a quick reminder that there will be a new date and time for the Chapter Scholar-Athlete Banquet. The awards night will be Sunday, May 4, 2014, and the new site will be the Boston/Newton Marriott at the intersection of Routes 128 and the Massachusetts Turnpike. The evening will begin with a reception at 6:00 and dinner will follow at 7:00.



Jack Welch

## CHAPTER AWARDS

Congratulations to the pair of former Ipswich High School coach **Jack Welch** and team historian **John Thomas** for being named the 2014 recipients of the Ron Burton Distinguished American Award and the Ed Schluntz contributions to Amateur Football Award respectively. The two, who met in a math class at Ipswich High 50 years ago, will receive their awards at the Scholar-Athlete Banquet on May 4.

Congratulations to Jack and John and look for more information on their lives and careers in the Spring newsletter.

## CONCUSSION COMMITTEE

At the annual Board of Directors meeting there was lengthy discussion about the problem of concussions in football. The NFF has identified the issue as one that needs further emphasis and **Tom Lamb** has volunteered to chair a committee of Chapter members to look into the issue and see what can be done to assist in the alleviation of these injuries. There are 10 members on the committee, and we will report on their progress in the Spring newsletter.

## GRINOLD CHALLENGE

For the third consecutive year our Chapter's namesake has issued a challenge to the membership. Jack will match any funds donated to the Chapter up to a cumulative total of \$3,000. The previous two challenges have resulted in a cash infusion of just under \$5,000 into our coffers. Those of you who would like to contribute can send your contributions to:

## **GRIDIRON CLUB NEWS**

The Gridiron Club of Greater Boston will host its annual Bob Whelan College Football Awards Night on Thursday, January 9, 2014, at the Westin Waltham Hotel. Tickets are \$50 each or \$500 for a table of ten.

Among those honored will be 2009 Grinold Chapter Scholar-Athlete **Nnamdi Obukwelu** (Brockton, Mass.) as the defensive recipient of the 75<sup>th</sup> annual George “Bulger” Lowe Award, “New England’s Heisman Trophy”, and one of America’s oldest college football accolades.



The Bulger Lowe Award recognizes the New England’s best offensive and defensive players in the NCAA Bowl and Championship Divisions. Boston College running back **Andre Williams**, the selection on offense, and Obukwelu head an all-star slate of players, coaches and officials to be honored.

MIT head coach **Chad Martinovich**, a member of the Grinold Chapter, will be honored as the Division II and III Coach of the year. Martinovich led MIT to a 6-3 record, and the Engineers’ second consecutive winning season.

Tickets can be ordered online at [www.gridclubofgreaterboston.com](http://www.gridclubofgreaterboston.com), or by calling club secretary **Dick Lawrence** at (781) 231-0372. The social hour begins at 6:00 p.m., with dinner at 7:00.

In other Gridiron Club news, Grinold Chapter President **Tom Lamb** has been named the second vice-president of the Gridiron Club, and Grinold Chapter Executive Board Member **Skip Bandini** has been named to the Board of Directors.

## **COLLEGE HALL OF FAME**

The summer of 2014 will mark the move of the College Hall of Fame from South Bend, Ind., to Atlanta, Ga. The building will be located adjacent to Olympic Park in downtown Atlanta. The Jack Grinold Chapter has purchased a commemorative brick for the walkway at the Hall of Fame. For those who wish to see the Chapter’s brick once the Hall opens, we have brick number 0006.

## **HAPPY NEW YEAR**

From all of us on the Executive Board of the Jack Grinold Eastern Massachusetts Chapter, to all of our members, we wish you a happy, healthy and prosperous 2014.