



Episode #27 - Bill Kuntz and Ed Tinder

Gary: 00:00 I'm Gary Armbruster and this week we have a very special Rebel 5ive podcast extra with Bill Kuntz and Ed Tinder. I had a conversation with them recently. We talked about family connections and coming up is that conversation.

Speaker 2: 00:15 You're listening to Rebel 5ive, an interactive interview podcast with alumni, past and current parents and friends of Roncalli high school. I'm your host, Gary Armbruster, Director of Alumni and Corporate Relations at Roncalli . and each week I will ask our guests five questions regarding how their lives have evolved and how key connections of experience, opportunity and alumni networking have propelled them to where they are today. We'll talk challenges, how to overcome challenges and what they've learned along the way. Stay tuned.

Ed : 00:45 Bill Kuntz took Bill Sahm's place Bill Kuntz senior, which technically isn't senior, but Bill Sahm Seniors place. And then uh, I took Bill Kuntz's Place. Bill Kuntz took my place and Billy Sylvester took Kuntz' place. We had a little thing going there and now Bruce Scifres took my place.

Gary: 01:07 Well talk a little bit about that because you were both at Roncalli under Butch Branson, correct? Correct. And so we would win our first ever football sectional in 76. Uh, Chad Huck was our coach, or I'm sorry, the quarterback rather, uh, threw to Jeff Jourdan. Um, talk a little bit about that cause Ed, you and I didn't talk about it in our episode, but, uh, that was Roncalli was really not known athletically at that time. We were really more known for our band. Our band was awesome under Bernie Weimer. Honestly, that was, that was it. All right. So talk a little bit about that and then we'll kind of talk about the transition

Bill: 01:45 Actually in Butch Branson, again, more whatever professional something. But our inner intertwined connections actually played football for my dad at Scecina prior to him coming here. So, and I was a just a kid on the sideline. I remember watching Butch Branson play at Scecina. Um, but then, uh, yeah, and actually I came here, um, primarily because I student taught underneath Ed in the 1974 75 school year. My senior year at Butler, we student

teacher. And, uh, Ed was kind enough to take me on and, uh, I fell in love with the place during that time. I mean, I, I knew of Roncalli and, and, uh, Chartrand and grew up like all of you, like you guys did to playing ball in the gym and those kinds of things. But, uh, to my eyes were really open to the school and the potential and all that, and again, learn so much from him starting off as a student teacher.

Gary: 02:37 Do you have a memory of that?

Ed : 02:39 Oh, I sure do. I thought this is, this, this great opportunity and, and Bill was a Butler student. Yeah. I saw this as a great opportunity to, uh, turn the class over to him and I went out and had a diet Coke. No, I, I again, I, I had mentioned to you that my passion was teaching and coaching. I saw this opportunity to, there's a young person who I greatly respect and admire and like, we're good friends. And, uh, I saw it as an opportunity to just, I dunno, just be a part of his first experiences in the classroom and first experiences on the football field. And, uh, I looked at it as, uh, just really something enjoyable and exciting and, and, uh, you know what I like doing

Gary: 03:23 In 77, you leave Roncalli , Bill Kuntz here. Um, where did you run? Where, where'd you run off?

Bill: 03:30 Yeah, my goal honestly, was to be a college football coach at that point in my career. And, uh, so I got an opportunity, uh, actually ed had gotten the, the head coaching job at that point in time. I really wanted to stay in and coach with him, but I also wanted to be a college coach and I had got on as a graduate assistant at the university of Cincinnati, stayed there, got master's degree there, and then, uh, came back to Butler for a couple years as an assistant coach and then came to the conclusion that, uh, really the college coaching life wasn't going to be for me. You have to pick up and move every few years you're hired to be fired and, and all those kinds of things. And, uh, uh, when ed then went to CYO and left the football job vacant, uh, I was thrilled that Bernie Dever and Bob Tully and Sr. Charles Allen called me and invited me to apply for it. And, and so I was real happy to follow in his footsteps.

Ed : 04:27 I, I pleaded him, I pleaded with him to stay when I became the head coach. Uh, but, uh, as it turned out, uh, I think it worked out the best for both of us,

Gary: 04:36 I would say. So when Bill Kuntz takes the, takes your position at Roncalli as a head football coach, uh, did you have anything, any part to play into that?

Ed : 04:46 No, I, I really didn't. And that was, that was an interesting time. I was put into a bad, uh, situation kind of when I, uh, had left, uh, Bob Bartolomeo was on, on our staff. Right. I knew Bob was going to be an outstanding coach, which proved to be, uh, uh, pretty, uh, accurate. And, uh, I and Bob wanted to become a head coach. You wanted to become a head coach, you know, high school. He wanted the Roncalli job. Bob had been with me for a couple of years and I, I felt like I had to support him and then I found out that Bill was interested in the job and was going to, uh, uh, be leaving Butler and, uh, Bob Tully and Bernie Dever, they, they had indicated to me Bill was interested in jobs. So here was my dilemma. I had a guy on my staff who I greatly admired as a coach and actually I had immediately indicated that, you know, a few, if you look within, I think Bob would be an outstanding choice. Right. Then I find out Bill is, uh, has an interest in coming back to Roncalli and being the head coach. And so I've kind of put in a, a predicament there, but the predicament was the best of both worlds. I, I knew, you know, in either case, ah, couldn't go wrong. Well, Bill ends up here. Bob ends up at Butler university. And, uh, I think again, in both cases, uh, somebody was looking over us and blessing this, uh, for the best outcome.

Gary: 06:10 Did Bob stay on your staff? ,

Bill: 06:11 Bob ended up taking my place at Butler flip flop jobs there too. Yeah.

Gary: 06:17 So you're off to the CYO, Bill's dads, the executive director. Talk a little bit about that and how you transitioned from Roncalli's being the football coach.

Ed : 06:27 Well, yeah, it was, it was actually pretty difficult and I had mentioned, I, I went to the CYO because of Bill Kuntz. Yeah. I had been involved with, uh, you know, the Tony Hinkles of the world, the Bill Sylvester's, the

Bob Tullys. Uh, Jim McGregor's, I had been involved with some outstanding people. Here was another opportunity to be involved with not only, you know what I, I also thought not only Bill Kuntz, but the family when you, when you worked with Bill Kuntz, you became part of, of, of his life and their family. And uh, for me that was, that was extremely, uh, uh, it was a blessing without a doubt.

Gary: 07:07 Moving back a little bit, Bill, when you were a Butler playing football. Yes. Did you play for Billy Sylvestor or Bill Sylvester?

Bill: 07:14 Yes, I did. I, um, Tony Hinkle retired I believe in 1970. And then, uh, Bill or maybe 1969, Bill Sylvestor took over in 70. I came his second year.

Gary: 07:26 And so compare your Butler experiences were, were they similar? I mean, you guys were friends?

Ed : 07:32 Well, I was a lot better player. That's, I, you know, I,

Bill: 07:36 there's a long list people who were a lot better players than me.

Ed : 07:40 Well, I, I would have, I'm going to just guess and I'm going to, I'm going to speak for Bill and see if he backs this up. Uh, one of the things that I extremely cherish is the, uh, individuals that, uh, and we had a little bit of a crossover there because he was coming in exactly when I was going out, but, uh, the individuals that we got to know and still remain friends with today playing for Butler. Uh, and, uh, just to this day, we still have little Butler groups that get together and uh, they ended up, many of them ended up actually coaching for both of us and with us. I mean, I'd mentioned I, Bob Bartolomayo and Roger Dotson and Bob Casselman. These are all Butler guys.

Ed and Bill: 08:23 Guy by the name of Bruce Scifres. Bruce Bruce Scifres coached for Bill. I'm going to take credit for Bruce and Ken Larose and Doug Opel, Bill Sylvestor jr. we just named between the two of us. Joe Hollowell's, a Butler guy. I tell you that whole guy throw him in there. I start, you start throwing names out on something like this. I'm going to wake up in the middle of the night screaming that I forgot there mentioned somebody. So we got most of the Butler guys there.

Ed : 08:47 Connection, uh, for both of us has been a extremely, uh, a a big blessing our lives.

Gary: 08:54 Well wanted to just get you guys together because I thought it'd be kind of fun to, you know, compare some notes and I know there's a lot of good overlap and, and uh, so thank you both

Bill: 09:05 Hey, the original question was about, uh, Roncalli's first sectional. It was against Noblesville. Noblesville was a tiny at Warren central. Noblesville was a tiny little school in those days. And, uh, it was a big win for Roncalli . That was exciting to be a part of. And then, uh, Jasper I think was the game that you were talking about when I came in. They had a good team and a good program, but, uh, we couldn't quite get over the hump with Jasper. Was that down there? Uh, no, that was at Warren as well. Yeah, it was, yeah, it was in Warren central.

Ed : 09:35 If I may, I, I, we talk a little bit about the, the times of trying to merge Bishop Chartrand high school and, and sacred heart or Kennedy high school and students together. I, I attribute a lot of the, and there's been a lot of, uh, process to get to school to where it is today. But I, I attribute this guy to my left Bill Kuntz with being a big part of that. And his, uh, leadership in the football program for example. And I, I think it's probably still a tradition today where, uh, the parents and everybody invited into the locker room after the games. And I, I've seen over time little kids with eyes as big as saucers. Uh, that is such a neat experience and it has, it has done more to build community, uh, than anything. I know Bill started that and uh, I just thought that was the neatest thing. And some of the other traditions that he started in football, uh, I think are a big part of why Roncalli is Roncalli today.

Gary: 10:38 I don't think anybody would argue with that. I think that block house though today is a little bit nicer.

Gary: 10:42 You don't want, Oh man. You know what? That smell is still the same though. We have an air filtration system though. Believe it or not, if you know what, that's the smell of victory. And I don't mind that smell at all.

Ed : 10:56 Bill's dad had a big part part in really, uh, starting that Blockhouse from the days we had it.

Ed : 11:03 Oh, I remember, I remember he had Jeek Mchugh laying block out there. Well and his dad, Gary's dad supplied the block. Right. Supplied the, so right here we've got the foundation for that block house. I remember every Sunday night my wife and I would go over and hose out and clean the block house Monday morning or Monday afternoon. And I wanted the kids to come into a clean Blockhouse and she still talks about that to this day.

Gary: 11:29 Well, the funny thing about that, uh, Bob Tully tells a story about, uh, I think there group of guys met on a Sunday night and said we needed a block house and the next day Roy Swartz was over here on this bulldozer, another Holy namer, and uh, just getting it ready. And uh, a little bit different today when you have to have the permits and all that.

Bill: 11:48 Oh, we didn't bother with those guys for man's plans financing. Let's go. We need something. Let's just do it. So that was a different

Gary: 11:56 But uh, certainly, uh, times that we remember and cherish.

Bill: 12:02 Yeah. Oh, absolutely. Absolutely. And I want to, I want to throw it back to him that again, the nice things he said about me, but again, I learned so much from him not only in those days, but throughout our lives and, uh, our, our families are intertwined. I'm thrilled. The, our sons grew up about the same age as [inaudible] and, uh, his son Chris and our Billy were classmates from kindergarten all the way through Roncalli, even roommates at Purdue. Uh, their daughter, Megan is our God daughter. Our daughter Erin is their goddaughter. And just, uh, just so proud of the relationship we have. And maybe another time, another place that you asked earlier in one of the, the, uh, things that you sent me about maybe funny things that happened. I still a lot of times, in fact, it just happened 15 minutes ago, a get called E or mr Tinder. It can be past students. It could be somebody just, you know, in the community. Uh, and I think it's the blonde hair.

Ed : 12:54 I get called, I get called and I just think it's, I think it is confusing for people. And they know CYO. They know Roncalli and they know, you know, two guys with white hair and it just happened a few minutes ago, but it happens

Bill: 13:08 several times a year that I'll bump into somebody and they'll say, Hey, mr Tinder, how you doing?

Ed : 13:13 That's fine. Keep going. Yeah. Can you give us our own show? Hey, you know what, you might have something that would be something. We can look at it. We're certainly amusing ourselves. I don't use anybody else.

Gary: 13:29 Well, I'm just going to say thank you. Uh, both of your contributions over the years have been a, an unprecedented really at Roncalli and, and uh, so many of our guests prior to this have mentioned both of you as being, uh, instrumental in their formation as professionals, whether it's teaching or in the professional life. So, um, I don't know that you have a full appreciation for how much people love and respect both of you guys. So thank you very much. And uh, we will keep moving on and Go Rebels!

Bill and Ed: 14:05 Alright, Go Rebels!

Gary: 14:08 I'm Gary Armbruster and thanks for joining us today for this episode of the Rebel Sive podcast. To find out more information about the podcast, please visit 50.roncalli.org/podcast.php. Again, thanks so much for joining us today and until next time. We'll fight ahead.