

Episode #6 – Rob Brown and Dan Bauer

Gary: 00:02 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. Welcome to this week's Rebel 5ive podcasts. Our guests this week, we're going off form a little bit this week we have two guests. Our first guest is a Roncalli graduate from 1985. He is the parent of three rebels, married the Pam Bostic and of course Dan Bauer Class of 85. Welcome to the show, Dan. Good to see you. Thanks for having me. His sidekick is Rob Brown. Rob's married to Rachel and they have two children, two rebels, Sam and Lillian. It's interesting that all three of us soon will be empty nesters of sorts very soon. Sooner rather than later. Dan's face is lighting up as is mine that I'm counting down. Yeah. But I'm pushing for sure. I'm right with you. when we decided to do this with you too, I was trying to come up with, some of the national broadcasters who I would compare you to. I was thinking, you know, Al Michaels and Chris Collinsworth and you know, that that didn't quite seem to fit. And then I went back a little bit beyond that. You know, Howard Cosell and Frank Gifford, it didn't seem like the right connection either. Dick Enberg, Al Maguire, different sport, but you know, those two guys worked together for quite some time. If you're a radio or a Reds fan, Marty and Joe. But the duo that kept coming back to me over and over and over again was Laurel and Hardy. I'm not sure.

Rob: 02:01 I, I was a huge Dick Enberg guy. Yeah. And, you bring up Dick Enberg in, in a, in a basketball context, but it a football context. I think about Dick Enberg always did

those NBC West Coast Games at four o'clock when we were kids before we got an NFL team here. and it was always Dick Enberg and Merlin Olsen and they were fantastic. And you know, Merlin was a defensive lineman, like, like my guy Dan. Yeah. So I'd go with that. Dick Enberg, and Merlin Olsen, although Dan never appeared on Little House on the Prarie. So that's probably where the analogy ends.

Gary: 02:40 Well, we're going to go off, like I said, all form a little bit, since there's two of you here and, and we've got a lot of ground to cover. So to get started, I'm going to throw this question out to both of you. Dan. Roncalli graduate of 1985. Been around Roncalli for a long, long time. do you have a favorite Roncalli memory sports doesn't have to be sports. It could be anything.

Dan: 03:02 Well, it's hard. It's hard to, not run the sports, right? These did a lot of that and while I was here, but, the 83 run to the state championship is one that brought a lot of memories as you, you know, each game, you, you keep your, you know, holding your breath and, and working hard and going. And I remember dinners, team dinners and stuff leading up to a parent's getting all excited and pep rallies and, and in the games themselves were ones that, I mean guys that I graduated with still get together and talk about or watch in some cases, and, and the, my finger touched the ball or it didn't touch the ball or I almost got the quarterback or didn't. Those things kind of get exaggerated as we move on. But it was one that, you know, as you move through life, those stories continue. And so it's a memory that lives on, and probably will live on until we're all too old to remember them. But yeah, some great memories through that run.

Gary: 03:55 Do you have a favorite specific memory of that season?

Dan: 04:00 Well, and for whatever reason, it's always bad cause it's the bad plays that stick with me, not the good ones. And so the play that I remember is the very last play of the game area and wasn't the game necessarily I but I the one that mattered, right. we're, were Dwenger had the ball in the championship game and they rolled out, they had the ball. They were, they were going for two, in, in the corner of the end zone at Warren Central. They had some lighting issues that went into the dark corner. and so we could lay beef on whether it was accurate or not, but, I was chasing down the quarterback came real close, dove after him as I recall, grabbed his feet and he fell and I thought, okay, I got the sack and look up and I see the ball flying towards the end of the, or into the corner of the end zone. And I see Tony Annee wrapping around the receiver in really good position. Now he claims his finger hit the ball as he brought that right hand around. And receiver is, you know, coffin corner got his feet stuck to the in any catches it out of bounds, then you have to wait and kind of see what the referee, and he's got his hands up and unfortunately he caught the ball and great play by Dwenger to win the game, which gave him that one point victory. But, a lot of, again, what ifs and almost and a disappointing way to do it. But I am, I can remember that play in my mind and I wish it was one where I sacked the quarterback or running back hard or made a great block. But again, it's those sour memories that kind of linger a little bit.

Gary: 05:29 So about 20 years later we played Dwenger in the state finals and kind of, kind of a reversal of that first game when you were playing. We were down and we came back and I don't remember the score, but we were down by a couple of

scores, came back and beat Dwenger. Do you have any, I don't know if you were at that game. I think it was maybe 02. I did

Dan: 05:54 go to that game, but it didn't help my sourness. Alright.

Gary: 05:58 Glad for those guys. And then the rest and Rebel family. Right. But yeah, it's still soured me. Okay. Why don't you bring up Brownsburg I, you know, I thought, gosh, should I bring it up but I'm not going to. So Brownsburg my senior year for everyone out there. But yeah, that is a whole nother story. That's a whole nother story. That might be a separate podcast that could last a while. Rob, how about you, you, you've been with us for, you started doing basketball for us in '07 and have been the football play by play guy since 11. Not, not necessarily a homegrown Rebel. An honorary alumni. Sure. And Southport Grad. Do you have a favorite Roncalli memory?

Rob: 06:42 Well, I would say a non-sports division would be going and watching, my kids graduate one down, one to go in that regard. Sports category would be probably the two state championships that I've been fortunate to call, the football state championship, that Dan it together and 16 and then the baseball state final, which would have been earlier that year in 16 and in June. That'd be those two for sure.

Gary: 07:12 So the 2016 season, a monumental season for us, we marched on to the state championship. The first game was at Southport and we were getting beat pretty bad. It didn't look very good with less than two minutes to go in the game.

Rob: 07:28 We're down 11, early in the fourth quarter. Okay. We're down 11 with 10 minutes and change. So yeah, down at that point, things did not look good. It did not look good. Let's take a listen.

Radio Clip: 07:40 Nick fishers in as an extra wide receiver. Two to either side. O'Connor takes the snap drop straight back. Three man rush, still running around, clocks running. And O'Connor heaves it down in the middle of a field. 80 yards strike Derek O'Connor to Nick Fischer. The Rebels, rushing four everybody else, deep. Schott. Oh, you go, hold on toward the goal line and it is broken up, incomplete, game over. Game over. What a win. Incomplete game over. The Rebels storm the field and for the first time since 2012, the rebels have defeated the Southport Cardinals. Down 11 points with under nine minutes to go. The rebels rally back. And win this one on an touchdown pass from Derek O'Connor to Nick Fischer with 17 seconds to go. What a win for the rebels here on the south side, the Rebels win tonight on the road. 25 21 over Southport.

Gary: 09:07 Rob. Great Call. Two things. do you get mad when Dan calls it before you do? Rule of broadcasting? Color guy don't make the call. You'll hear that all day. I know I have no control.

Rob: 09:20 No, we're okay there. I still, you know, I listened back to that. and it's been 12 years now that I've been here calling games and I still struggle. I still have to consciously remind myself when we do a game at Southport, what side I'm on. Yeah. I don't have that problem when we play Southport here on campus, but when we're at Southport, whether we're at the, at the stadium or we're in the field house doing a basketball game, I have to, I have to make a conscious effort to remind myself what side I'm aligned to. So along those lines, it, I maybe put a

		little something extra to that one based on how that game ended. Because you know, we had struggled we, getting off to a good start and Southport had won three out of four Bill Peeple's had resurrected the program. So we had a stretch of years there. Even in 14, we won the sectional. And in 15, same thing where it becomes almost a given that we were going to start the season. 0-1 because Southport was, had, had kind of gotten control of the rivalry. And I think that's what made it clearly that play set a whole series of things in motion that culminate with an undefeated season. But in the more immediate moment, that play was significant because it reestablished the Rebels taking control of the rivalry. And the other thing about that play, you know, Nick Fisher comes in, his twin brother was on the team as well. Nate. Nate was the backup tailback so he got a lot of carries a backing up Kenny Gill that was the only pass Nick Fisher caught all year was that 80-yard pass crazy.
Gary:	11:02	I asked Bruce Scifres this question a few podcasts ago. We don't win that game just as a, one idea. Do we win the State Championship?
Rob:	11:19	Oh, probably.
Dan:	11:21	I'm thinking a little harder about that. Well, and if you go back then, if you remembered the scrimmage at Franklin that year, there was a quarterback controversy going into that game, or into the sec or the earlier, yeah. And, and so Derek O'Connor who is now legend because of what he did that season yeah. Was not even necessarily the starter going into that game. and you've got Eddie Schott who everybody's been talking about and he's six foot four, you know, and I think it was a sophomore that year. He hadn't even really got up and running, but a lot of people were talking, Oh, if he was at Roncalli? And so you've got to controversy already. You got another group of alumni saying that, well if, if Eddie was here, neither of these two guys would play. Right. And it kind of sets itself up to where it's like, oh, and then we don't play well that game. I mean honestly, I mean we deserve to lose that game. And somehow Derek stays up, he runs around that we know and it's not really a great football play. And then you know, you get a receiver doesn't even catch another ball all year long. He catches it for an 80-yard touchdown and is able to stay up on a guy that almost tackles him or should have tackled him. And there was just so much that went into that game. I'm not sure they have the confidence because then if you think about it as we move forward and will probably listen to a couple more clips, but the next of the next like three games, they really should've lost three of those next four games. And without the confidence that they got in that game, on that play, I don't know if they rally to keep believing at that point. You don't know what coaches will do at that point. You know when you lose that game and you go, okay, you all get switch quarterbacks. Right. And it's a lot could unravel if you don't win that game. And we'll never know. It'd be, I think it's great talking points for the next 50 years.
Gary:	13:13	So next week we, we play Franklin Central. That was a close game, but then we played Bishop Chatard and then we played, that was our home opener and a, we're going to go to that clip.
Radio Clip:	13:24	Fullhouse backfield, Drury, the snap, he'll keep it (inaudible) He did not make it. The Rebels hold! The Rebels hold! The Rebels turn them away.

Gary:	13:57	Rob. That was, I'm not sure it's, that holds enough. Well they had first and goal on the two or three-yard line and at one point in time, well
Rob:	14:07	They ran, they ran four plays four plays inside the four.
Gary:	14:12	Yeah. A first and goal inside the four-yard line is that eastern zone? Yeah. I don't know how much time was left in the game inside of a minute and a half. Yeah. Yeah. I think there was at least one time out used 21 to 14. It's Chatard Dan's already alluded to. That was, that was an amazing end to that game. I'll, I'll go to you Dan, talking about the rivalry, with Chatard.
Dan:	14:38	Yeah. And that, and you know, you're getting, you got Vince Lorenzano who is a run it up the gut type of guy and you've got big linemen, they in his mind that game, you know, the previous game he's going to decide, he's going to throw it all over the place. That game, he was going to run it in or lose. Yeah. Cause I mean he didn't try to do any kind of play action, didn't do any kind of rollout. I mean it was hand the ball to your full back and let your big Lineman win this game for you. And in his mind that's, it was not going to take four downs to do it right and Roncalli stepped up and said, oh no you're not. And just fantastic play across the board. You can't have a goal line stand without everybody doing their job, without linemen getting down low. You know, firing out and getting deep so that they don't have any legs to get your legs turning linebackers that are filling the right holes. You know, your, your, your, you know, they made it easy. They had, I, as I recall, they had they run all tightends so you don't have to spread, there's no spread out in those days. So you know, you're not or in that, that offense. So you know, you've got line or safeties that are up there and everyone just has to do their job because one breakdown and it's over and everyone did their job. They can and, and it's, you could take any team throughout history and give Chatard four plays from four yards in and every time they're going to score. Even that year, I think if you did it again, they scored and a half years out of 10 they're going to do. But Roncalli stepped up and that was the one out of a hundred times that it's going to happen and Roncalli It happened and you could hear from our voices how excited we were and when you win on defense that it makes you more special.
Gary:	16:07	We beat Bishop Chatard and we're going to go to the, to the end of the season in 2016 where we made some history. we had joined the circle city conference. We were playing up at Guerin for the first time as a tight ball game. And this is at the end where you're basically talking about, the Rebels first conference win and
Radio Clip:	16:39	Derek, play action, swings it out to Parker down the sideline. He's got a first down. That's a first down Rebels. O'Connor under center play clock at five. Derrick takes a knee and that will do it. The Roncalli Rebels are the first ever Circle City Conference Champions. And for the first time ever rebels have won a conference championship in a boy's sport. And for just the fifth time in 48 years of football, the Roncalli Rebels have navigated the regular season with a perfect 9-0 record. Our final tonight from Guerin Catholic, Roncalli's Rebels 28 Guerin Catholic 21
Gary:	17:21	Rob, you made a point to describe that and I'll throw it out to you. Most high schools in the area have a conference to fight for it. We've never had it. So got to

tell, talk a little bit about what that probably meant to the program and to the school.

Rob: 17:37 Well I think it was twofold. I think for that particular group. Yeah, we played the clip from the Chatard game and the Chartard game and you know, most games Dan and I walk out to the parking lot together after the game's over. And that was kind of the first after the Chatard game you started to get a feel for, okay, this team could do something pretty significant because it's human nature to look at the schedule and kind of project wins and losses. That was the first time you got to feel that hey, they could maybe run the table here at least in the regular season. So that game, that Guerin game was significant because that clinch that the, you know, I mentioned that in the clip that they clinched the regular season going undefeated. Right, right. The conference championship was a big deal because of the teams they had to beat specifically Chatard. But I think more significantly, and I mentioned it in the clip that it was the first boys championship in anything because it's a fall sport. It's our first year in the conference, so it was the first boys championship. And so you can only have one first. And that's the first, the volleyball team had won a conference title a couple of weeks earlier. So they, they were the first, first. But the first on the boys' side I think. Yeah, that, that's why it was significant.

Gary: 18:51 I think late in the game, that game, as fourth down, we you go for it.

Rob: 18:56 Fourth and one from the, your own 11 up seven in the final three minutes.

Gary: 18:59 Talk a little bit about that.

Rob: 19:01 I was shocked there was a timeout called and I think we, we stayed with the broadcast. We didn't go to commercial. And so, you know, in those, I'm a basketball guy at my core. So when, when these types of things come up in the game, I lean heavily on Dan and I put it to Dan, what would you do? And, and Dan was, was, you know, being a defense guy, he was, he was adamant, you know, punt it, make them, make them work a 60 to 70-yard field, you're up a touchdown. They've got to go the length. And I think we were both surprised when, when, when the offense came out of the huddle and, and they went for it on fourth and one from your own 11,

Dan: 19:45 but then they, even the more surprise was if I recall right, they do a play action to the tight end. Every everything in your, in the football archive, says you run three plays and then you punt it and make them go as far as you can to get a touchdown to try to tie the game. You know, don't do anything that's going to give him the ball at the 11 yard line and throwing it to a tight end gives you a good chance you're giving them up all of the 11 yard lines because you know, at the tight end, especially not known for hands, and just to make that call is you got to tip your hat to coach Scifres who's like, wow, that's, that's one of those wow moments where that call is so brave. And it's, you know, the NFL guys talk about you end your paycheck that game. But if they, if that doesn't work, you're done there, you're fired the next day. Because that, that plays is, that goes against everything. But that's what makes it so great. It goes against everything and there's no way they expect that play to happen. And that's why it's wide open right now. You still got to have a good pass you can to make sure you catch it. Don't, don't run before you catch it. You know, there's so much you can go

wrong with it. But it was the perfect play, which allowed Roncalli then to take that knee and win the game. Okay.

Gary: 21:00 So that end of the the regular season we were undefeated. we get a pretty good draw in the section. We, we invite Northview into the friendly confines of Roncalli Stadium. Didn't take much to get by them. And then we'd go up to Lebanon and Lebanon quite frankly, not known for their football program, although I think, I don't remember what there a season a record was, but it wasn't, wasn't bad, right?

Rob: 21:29 No, it was pretty good. Right. And they had come in, the year prior they had come in and played us in the sectional. That's right. When they had a nine or ten win team, and they had one of the leading rushers in the state and we shout them out. So they, they had some things on their side. Now they had some, they had graduated a lot of guys from that team and they were in kind of a transition team, but they had some serious athletes on that. Yeah.

Dan: 21:52 So what did we talk about? Conferences? The knock, I worked with a bunch of Lebanon guys and yeah, the knock on that team is it, their conference doesn't live up to, you know, even though they're not known for football, they're usually known to at least make a good run in their, in their conference because the conference is known for basketball, more than football. Right. And so the the, I think that came into that, you know, you look at the record and go, okay, these might be pretty good. But then you watch films and you're like, okay, they're not playing the best competition. So how does that play out? Right, right. Get there. yeah.

Gary: 22:21 Not exactly how the game unfolded. No. Let's take a listen.

Radio Clip: 22:24 Third down and five at the Lebanon 18, Rebels trail 33-31. 28 seconds to go. O'Connor drops to throw, rush coming, dumps it out. Gillums got it. Dancing has a down. He's across the 15 down to the 12 first down. And Derek will keep it himself, Derek driving, he's inside the five down to the three. Snap down kick up on the way it is. It's good with one and a half seconds to go. The Rebels have the lead. Wow! 34- 33 Patrick Sandler. Cold as ice.

Dan: 23:04 My Favorite cold as ice.

Gary: 23:07 Rob, that win didn't win us anything though. Cause we had come back and play Greenwood the next week.

Rob: 23:12 Correct. And that Lebanon game was, it was an odd night. It was a cold night. It was fall break. The next week. That game was over at the coin toss at Greenwood. Talk a little bit about the coin toss. Well, so the game was at Greenwood and it was a huge crowd. Yeah, huge crowd, great weather night. There were still people coming into the stadium mid to late first quarter. the lines were so backed up to get into the stadium. But prior to the game, Greenwood took the field first. and we were heavy favorites. I think they had probably they were maybe a game or two over 500 or right at 500. Their team came out first. They were at midfield, and they were all kind of doing the, come on, come get it, you know, wagging their fingers as our guys were coming on the field. And I remember we had come back from break. And so Dan and I talked about it on the air and I just remembered, I asked Dan, you know, as, as a, as a

former player, as a competitor, if you're a Roncalli player right now and you're getting ready to take the field and you look out at the 50 yard line and you see the home team doing that, what's your reaction? And I remembered it was almost kind of like the Mr. T and Rocky III where they asked Mr. T for his prediction. He says PAIN. I remember Dan just looked and said, that's just a bad idea all the way around. That's not going to end well for them. That game was lopsided from the jump.

Gary: 24:35 All right, we've got two more clips we're going to talk about, but we're going to go to a break right now and, we'll be back in just a minute for the Rebel 5ive podcast.

Gary: 25:19 Welcome back to the Rebel 5ive podcast with Dan Bauer and Rob Brown. Historically, we have gone to East Central since the early 2000s. we've had some, some pretty good success there. It's always a tough game. Always knock down, drag out. They don't really care for us too much over there. Rob, I think you talked about it earlier before we started that that was your first, first, football game that you did for us.

Rob: 25:49 Back in 2010 as a fill-in for Matt. Yeah, I, I did the game the last game of the regular season and that was that 2010 team that only won five games. So that team was undermanned, to begin with and the offensive line had had, had some injuries in the back third of the season. So the Rebels went down there with the really a shorthanded group. And yeah, that was a that was a beat down from the jump.

Gary: 26:10 Well, I was with you that, that night and we walked up to the press box and we walked in and the first thing that they said to us was, hey, are you from Roncalli? Yeah, well the losers are down at that end.

Rob: 26:24 I recall that.

Gary: 26:26 And it got worse from there. When you are in a final part of the game and the Game is exciting and like we've had here today, and you're in the confines of a field or a stadium that maybe either not familiar with or you've had a history of conflicts we'll say, do you make sure that that calls extra loud?

Rob: 26:55 Way Back when I first got started, my first job in radio was as a play by play guy for the old CBA team in Fort Wayne. The that was the precursor of the g league, the NBA's minor league. And the first year that I was there, we went to the finals. We played Sioux falls. Sioux Falls was probably the marquee franchise in the league in terms of following. They drew great crowds by CBA standards. Their building was usually full and certainly, it was full for the finals. And I remember we played the first two games in Sioux Falls. The second game we lost the first game. The second game, I think we broke the record for threes, made in a finals game at the time. And, you know, I, I yell bang when, when the team hits a three. So after about the 16th or 17th one, I think our point guard hit one late to clinch the game and a guy sitting behind me, I heard him say, that's it, I've had enough. And the next thing I knew he dumped his beer on me. So I learned very early in my broadcast career. I was probably, I was 26 at the time. That you can't call a game cognizant of WHO's around you. You have to call the game as it needs to be called. And don't worry about what's going on around you in terms of hurting anybody's feelings. Secondly, I learned that you have to be careful

when you put a little extra on something when you're on the road of WHO's around you. But at the same time, it can be extra sweet when things do not go the home teams way, and you're the visiting radio guy.

Gary: 28:29 So we are at East Central Semi-State game the year before we were over there again cause it seems like, I don't think we've ever played a postseason game against them here. No, it's always been there. Yep. They the year before, I think maybe there were eight, nine different opportunities. Fourth and short, the whole game long. We could never stop them. They'd beat us 21 to nothing. We're back over there again. I don't know that they were as strong, but we were, we were ready for them. Let's listen to this clip.

Radio Clip: 29:08 O'Connor's under center. [inaudible] East Central 16. Derek pitch back to Gillum. Kenny cuts outside driving. Yes. Kenny Gillum into the end zone from 16 yards out and he's brought the Rebels within a point. With 10:37 ago. We're all tied at 21. This will be the final play of regulation. Patrick Sandler with a chance to lift the Rebels to the state finals. It'd be a 30-yard kick. Derek O'Connor is the holder. Matt Waugh the snapper hit down, snap down, kicked this off and it is Patrick Sandler from 30 yards out, has lifted the Rebels to their 12th semi-state championship and the Rebels will play a Lucas Oil November game, one for the trophy for the first time in the history of the program. Our final from Trojan field on the campus of East Central high school as the students from Roncalli who made the trip mobbed the field, our final, the Roncalli Rebels 24, the East Central Trojans 21.

Gary: 30:25 Well, I'll ask you the question before that clip. Got a little extra juice sometimes you said you try not to. Same with that situation there?

Rob: 30:36 Well that was a that was an interesting night because I talked about, you know, we had some bad weather nights earlier in the playoffs, but that night it's the weekend before Thanksgiving and it was unseasonably warm. To the extent that a lot of our coaches were in shorts, short sleeves and Dan and I were both down that we will never go down the field together before the game. But for some reason, we went down the field before the game and I remember we were talking to coach Scifres and just how odd it was. The Sky was kind of a weird color as the sun was setting and just, it was weird to be standing there the weekend before Thanksgiving. Everybody had short sleeves on it. And I remember the press box was jam-packed. It was, there was not a lot of room to work with. And things went very well for East Central in the first half. We were down 21 -7. They had 200 plus yards rushing it looked like a repeat of the year before. And I remember, back then we had, Jimmy Cook, doing our halftime show back at the radio studio. So once the, once the halftime started, Dan and I could take a break and kind of put the headsets down and walk around. And I remember I told Dan, I gotta go outside and get some air. I was getting really frustrated with kind of the working conditions. And I remember I walked out on the porch. They had this little porch off to the side. And I just stood there and nobody knew who I was or who I was affiliated with. And I overheard several people talking. They were already making their plans as to when they were going to go to Indy the following weekend for the State Championship and Lawrenceburg, was playing the next day and they were saying, hey, you know, if Lawrenceburg wins, we're going to go over and watch them play and then we'll stay and watch us, et cetera, et cetera. And I, and I remember, I don't know if Dan remembers this, but when I got back to the, to our position, I was really

mad. I was, I was pretty hot. What was a halftime score? 21 to seven. Okay. Yeah. You mentioned, and the second half was just a fist fight. you know, it was so physical both ways. But, but the Rebels were able to get back into the game and then Kenny Gillum scored in the fourth quarter and there were only four possessions in the whole second half. Each team had the ball twice. Yeah. It tells you how physical it was at the line of scrimmage. And, the other thing I remember about that game is that we got into position to kick the field goal to win it's a tie game. And, Justin Roden, who was their head coach, now the head coach at Noblesville, he called all three timeouts. He had three timeouts in his pocket and he used all three of them. And, I remember hearing after the fact that after this, after the first time out, Patrick Sandler, the kicker was so loose, he started laughing and by the third time out he was, they were all, all the guys were laughing. They were so loose, they knew he was gonna make the kick. They were that confident that he was gonna knock it through and, and, and we were going to win.

Dan: 33:30 And, but even to get to that kick, you know, to get the 30 yard, Roncalli had to drive like 50 yards, 52 yards to get it in position. So, I mean, it wasn't like we got a turnover and, and just walk the guy out and made a long kick had the ball for six plus minutes. Yes, it was. It was, you know when the starts about four possessions, they both teams would just hold onto that football and it was run, run, run. The clock would go and there was no stopping it. But you only get a couple of moments of offensive time and you've got a score on those times. And again, Roncalli, just 50 yards to get it in position to try field a goal to win the game and it was pretty special.

Gary: 34:05 First time in 11 years that we were back at Lucas Oil. First time ever. Well first. Yeah, exactly. The first time in this, the State Championship and 11 years, we've got a clip here, against Northwood.

Radio Clip: 34:20 So now the Rebels will load it up first and goal at the 2, O'Connor's in the shotgun. Wilesky, the fullback working his way left O'Connor will keep it O'Connor, will walk it in eighth rushing touchdown the year for a Doc. And the Rebels are on the board first 6-0 with 11:24 to go here in the first half. O'Connor will give it to a Smock on the end around, He's got acres of space down the sideline to the wide side from 34 yards out and the Rebels lead this ball game 20-6. Looking throws has a man. Picked off space down the sideline cuts inside. That's Dylan Williams and Derek will fake it and keep Derek in a secondary. Wow. His third rushing touchdown Derek takes the nap. That's it. Yes. The students are chanting. I believe that we will win. The Rebels are storming the field. There's still time on the clock and it'll run down to zero and it will not matter. The Roncalli Rebels, defeat Northwood tonight, 34-22 the Rebels win their ninth state championship. Trophy #9 in the case, but this one has the shine of perfection as the rebels finish this season 15 up and none down. What an unbelievable season for this Roncalli squad as they finish it off here at Lucas oil stadium in front of a great Roncalli partisan crowd. The Roncalli Rebels are your 2016 class 4A state champions.

Gary: 36:08 Rob, when you're going through the final call of a game like that, where's that come from?

Rob: 36:14 We are, you have to have it evolve naturally. I mean, you think about, I think the only thing that you script ahead of time is you think about what are the

storylines of the game. I mean, we always have in our notes, what the storylines are for a game, whether it's the state finals or it's a week, week two game against Franklin Central. so you know what those are. And by the time you get to game time, you've looked at those all week and you've got those committed to memory. So you, you know what the storylines are, but so you want wanted and then you know what you want to frame in the call at the end, what points you want to hit. But how you word it specifically. you just have to let it flow naturally because if you, if you try and script it, it sounds scripted, it sounds forced. and I don't think it resonates. It's certainly not something that people want to listen to, years later, which is what you're trying to hope for. And the other thing is, I think as a play by play guy, the thing that you fear the most, especially in a game, regardless of sport, if a game ends on the last play, you want to make sure that you nail it and you fear screwing it up. That's, I mean, that's more than anything you fear botching the play because you know, these things get archived and listened to over and over and you don't want to be, you don't want it. You want to have it be crisp. You want to have it hit. You want to have people listened to it and say, man, he got that right.

Gary: 37:51 Then the Rebels finished 15-0 as a former player, what does that mean to you?

Dan: 38:00 That game was easily the most exciting game to call. You know, you're in Lucas Oil stadium which normally is the place I don't like to call games cause you are so high and you're, you're just far from the action. You don't normally have a feel for the game. But in that game, there was a lot of excitement. Northwood, although the score doesn't indicate in Northwood had the ball and they were driving and had a chance to get closer and Dylan Williams picks it off, it's about the end zone and then runs it out to about midfield, which gives you some breathing room at least, and you're just like, wow, you know, avoided that one. And so the game itself was very exciting back and forth and Doc ran all over the place. I mean, he, I don't even know if he threw a completed pass that game, but his legs carried the team. You're getting first downs everywhere and just the excitement of that game. especially after you look at the 14 games previously and all the excitement that led up to it, you know, it really just made that game special despite being a bird's eye high. And the call of it, you know, and I, and the listen to Rob's call it the end. I, I don't know how somebody doesn't prescript all that because he's so good at just coming up with the important stuff at the right moments and, and you know, do you hear that? And you just realize how big a moment it is. and, you know, I've also had the privilege of coaching a lot of the kids. And so, you know, to, in football you don't get to see faces. You've got the football helmets and you know, they get a penalty if they take the helmet off so you don't get the personality that you do in basketball or some other sports or volleyball. and in football for me to know those kids and then to watch it and you can see by their body language, the excitement of it and you know, and, and that made it even more special to know the kids and to see the excitement of Derek O'Connor and how nice he is off the football field. And yet how dominant he was, not only in that game but that whole year. and you just can't help but to fall in love with that team, and how they want it and that line. you know, they had five linemen that, none of them played college football, you know, they were, I don't think they had any injuries on football. So they were consistent all the way through the season. and they just dominated the line of scrimmage a lot of times, you know, and again, a bunch of no name guys that you're just like, wow. But, but it's it as a past linemen, it's what the, the, the position is, it's getting five guys to do it as a team and doing know who's

blocking who and what's, you know, who's pulling, who's you know, and don't worry about making a name for yourself because it's not what we do. and those guys were just so much fun to watch all year long. So by the time it finally got to that moment where you could listen to Rob, make that call, it was just, again, a special moment. And you were just happy for those kids and Coach Scifres, knowing that he kind of had some struggles through it and, and you know, through the year, a couple of years before that and to, you know, culminate it like that. It was, you know, really cool to have the opportunity to be up talking about it and watching it.

Rob: 41:03 Well, and Dan hit on a great point that I, I've, I've been here long enough that, you know, I feel like I'm a Roncalli guy and I've, I've paid my dues to be called that. and I want all, all Roncalli kids to succeed and do well and I root for them on the air. I think you can tell by that, but it would be disingenuous for me to suggest that I don't root harder for some kids than others. and there were so many guys on that team having a son that was a senior that year, that to Saint Barnabas. There were so many guys that he grew up with that he played basketball with. He played soccer with, he even played a year of football in 3rd grade that, that he did it. The kids that I've known since they were first and second graders. and then to see them be in that position, to have that kind of success and to have an achievement like that, that they can talk about and then they're going to carry around with them for the rest of their lives. That was, that was really cool to, to, to be able to watch that and have a front row seat for that 15 weeks.

Gary: 42:00 Well, I want to thank both of you guys for being here today. We're gonna take a quick break and then we're going to come back for some final thoughts.

Gary: 42:41 Welcome back to tonight's Rebel 5ive podcast with Dan Bauer and Rob Brown. Guys, you've been together broadcasting Rebel games for eight years. We've had some successes, have had lots of successes. The program looks like there's going to be more successes down the road. I'll start with you, Dan. Are you going to be here for those successes?

Dan: 43:03 Well, unless, you know some health issues that I don't know about. but I'm, yeah, I'm, I would hope, I would love to be a part of everything going forward. And, and I've had the fortune of, I think I'm going up on my 15th season doing this and I've worked with, you know, a lot of guys through the years and you know, Matt Taylor's with the colts now and Greg Rakestraw and everything. Yeah. It's really, as I sit back and look at it, I'm like, wow, this is kind of a lot of fun to work with these different guys and see the different styles. And now for the last eight years working with Rob who, we've got two guys in the booth, ones the consummate professional that comes buttoned up and has all the facts and figures and, yeah. And then you've got some other Yahoo that's like talking over him to, you know, you yell out the, we scored a touchdown. but his professionalism allows me to just go in and kind of talk football, which is what I like to do. and I'm not listening to every Friday to know for sure, but I know I have a whole lot of fun on Friday working with Rob because he makes it so easy to make it sound professional and get all the facts and figures. And I know the listening audience enjoys that because people tell me about that as like, how does he know all that stuff? And I was like, it's, it's, I would love to tell you, it's just memory and he's just that good. But it's because he does all the hard work coming into that broadcast that makes it special. And then throwing out facts

like that. and then I like to think that me going out at out and an on or else might add a little color to it, but, I have a lot of fun on Friday nights. Watching those kids. And I, and that's the one thing that, you know, we are talking high school football, you know, 16, 17, 18-year-old kids that, having kids go through, you know, when you see him come home, you know that they're still kids. and in the sports world, we kind of sometimes forget about that. Hey, we're watching the kids out there, but to be able to watch them and you know, and whether it ends in a season of, of undefeatedness or it ends with the three or four wins season, those kids are out there trying their hardest. And, it's pretty cool to sit in a press box, a undercover, some weeks, and just talk about football. And I'm constantly amazed of how many people say, well, I listen to you Friday night, or, you know, and I was over here, I was out of town and I listened to you. And to be able to say that I'm a part of that. and bringing that excitement that we get to watch on a Friday night to somebody's living room or a car when they can't make it, makes it something that it's like, okay, this is worth doing. And again, you're talking football and, and spending time with my buddy. And Bob Susemichael also is in there too, so we can't forget Bob, but it's a, it's a fun broadcast booth, especially these last eight years.

Gary: 45:50 Rob, I'm going to ask you the same question. Where do we go from here?

New Speaker: 45:54 Well, I think especially with, with football, you know, you commit to doing a season and you're committing to minimum 10 maximum 15 Friday nights and spending three, four hours with the same group of people every Friday night. And I don't think you sign up for that unless you're with a group of people that you really like to be with. And, you know, with, with things being archived, now I have the, you have the ability, anybody has the ability to go back and listen to things. So I, so I'm, while we're working on Friday nights, I have the ability to go back and listen to other groups and, during the, over the rest of the weekend or the following week, and I put our crew up against any crew in the state in terms of a group that's out doing high school football games every Friday night between, what we've got on air and, and, and Darla Coop behind the scenes. And Bob Susemichael doing our stats. You know, I think we've got the best group and, it, it's unique for me in that I've done almost a thousand games in my broadcast career and that's mostly basketball, but there are some baseball games in there. There's some softball games and football games. but of those thousand games, the only regular partner I've had is Dan. The rest of it's been revolving door and a lot of different stops, whether it's college, whether it's in the minor leagues or whether it was here on the basketball side. So he's the only consistent partner I've had. and he's part of the reason why I still do it. I mentioned earlier, I'm a basketball guy at my core, you know, that's where I got my start. That's where I'm most comfortable. Part of the reason I'm so maybe overprepared on Friday nights is, insecurity because I don't, I don't know football as well as I feel like I know other things. So, for me it's, it's, it's a security blanket to come into the booth with all that information. Where, you know, I was taught at an early age that, you know, you do all the prep work and maybe use 15 or 20% of it. If you use more than that, you didn't do enough. But I can come in, I'm comfortable on a Friday night knowing that I'm prepared. And part of the reason I'm able to do that is because I know that Dan has everything covered on the football side from a strategic standpoint, from a tactical standpoint. I don't have to worry about covering those sorts of things. And, you know, despite the fact I've been doing this a long time, my greatest fear is putting on a headset and sounding foolish, but I never worry about that on

		Friday nights because I know that I'm not going to put myself in a position to sound uneducated when it comes to football, because I've got Dan with me. And that's, to me, that's the best thing to have in a partner to know that, hey, my weaknesses are not a problem tonight or any Friday night because what I perceive to be my weakness, he's got it covered so I don't need to worry about it. And I can just Kinda do what I need to do to keep the ship running.
Gary:	49:17	Thank you both for being here for the Rebel 5ive podcast. It's been a blast. And, we will keep, keep marching ahead and, and see what comes down the road.
Rob:	49:27	Thanks for having, thanks for having us. We will fight ahead.
New Speaker:	49:29	We will. I'm Gary Armbruster and thanks for joining us today for this episode of the Rebel 5ive podcasts. 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.