



**The Robert “Buddy” Thompson /  
Randolph Oiler  
2013 Commitment Award**



The Randolph Oilers and the family of Buddy Thompson are proud to announce that the winner of the second annual Robert “Buddy” Thompson / Randolph Oiler Commitment Award is **Frank Gaudette**.

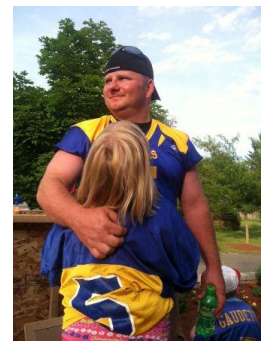
The award was established in 2012 to acknowledge the member of the Randolph Oilers who has served in the United States military and who best exemplifies the love of football, commitment to his country, and devotion to family that were the essence of what the late Buddy Thompson was all about.

Buddy Thompson, who passed away in May 2011, was a Marine during the Korean War. He was also a former running back who loved the game of football, and in recent years was exceptionally passionate in his support of the Randolph Oilers. This award acknowledges three of the things Buddy valued most: commitment to family, commitment to one’s country and keeping it safe, and love of the game of football.

There is no question that Buddy would be proud to know that a player of Frankie’s character would be receiving this award.



Frankie first joined the Oilers in the early 2000’s. Prior to that Frankie served his country as a member United States Marine Corps in 1997. During his military service Frankie reached the distinguished designation of corporal. He was honorably discharged in 2003.



On the field, Frankie has been a true leader and warrior. During numerous seasons Frankie has been elected a Team Captain by his teammates. No one has ever questioned Frankie’s heart and dedication on the field. As defensive tackles charge at Oiler qb’s Frankie from his customary fullback position never hesitates in dropping a shoulder and laying a block on players frequently 100 lb’s bigger than him to give Oiler qb’s that extra second to get the pass off.

And whether he is running the ball himself or blocking for someone else in the backfield Frankie approaches every play with the same passion. Frankie had this to say about football and the time he spent in the Marine Corps:



*"In many ways what you learn on the football field you can apply to your life outside of football such as discipline, hard work, determination and commitment. I've been playing this game since I was 9yrs old and now at 35 I am fortunate to still be playing this game I love so much.*

*I've taken what the Marines instilled in me and still use it today whether it's on the football field or in life. In many ways football, life and the Marine Corps reflect on each other because you need discipline, hard work, determination and commitment to survive in all three aspects. We use to say as a platoon: "HONOR, COURAGE, COMMITMENT" and I still to this day use these words as a way of life."*



As part of this award, a donation of \$250 will be made in Frank's name to the **Wounded Warriors Fund**. Additionally, we would like to thank **Schutt Sports** for generously donating a brand new custom-fit top of the line football helmet which is being presented to Frankie as part of the award.



Even though this award can only be issued to one player per season, the entire Randolph Oiler family would like to extend their gratitude to ALL Americans who have made the ultimate sacrifice in risking their lives by serving in the United States military to keep our country safe. Football is a great sport and a pastime we all enjoy, but the men and women who bravely serve our country are the true heroes. So to all of our veterans, both on the team and in the community we say **THANK YOU.**

Please join us in congratulating **Frank Gaudette** as the **2013 recipient of the Buddy Thompson / Randolph Oiler Commitment Award**, and thanking Frank for his commitment to the United States and for being the type of man we are proud to say is part of our community and the Randolph Oiler family. **Congrats Frankie!!!!!!**

