

 <p>DaytonB2B YOUR LOCAL BUSINESS NEWS SOURCE EMAIL BULLETIN</p>	<p>INTRODUCING A NEW ANGLE ON LOCAL BUSINESS</p> <p>CLICK HERE to sign up for local business e-bulletins at DaytonB2B.com</p>	<p>Part of our DaytonB2B suite of local business-to-business products, our e-bulletins provide breaking business news during the workweek via email. Sign up today.</p>
------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Dayton Daily News
www.daytondailynews.com

 PRINT THIS

COMMENTARY

Soldier had big impact on Hawk

By Tom Archdeacon

Staff Writer

Thursday, November 22, 2007

Keith Hawk noticed his son A.J. was getting emotional.

The two were standing in the darkness next to the Green Bay bus outside Denver's Mile High Stadium last month. The Packers — with whom A.J. is a standout second-year linebacker — had just beaten the Broncos, 19-13, in overtime in a Monday Night Football game.

But it wasn't game talk that got A.J. going, it was when his dad told him he was going to visit Jamie Lockwood's mom — Linda McNamara — once he got back to Centerville.

"That got him kind of emotional," Keith said. "He told me, 'I want to give her something.' And the next thing, he hands over the shoes he just played in. They still had the tape on them and everything."

Hawk already had sent Linda a football he and nine teammates had signed, but he wanted to do more. Even though he hadn't known Jamie when they both lived here, he felt he knew him now.

The two were both 23 this year, they grew up just a few miles apart — A.J. graduated from Centerville, Jamie from Fairmont — and both loved football.

There the sports similarities stop.

While A.J. was an Ohio State All-American, made a pair of All-NFL Rookie teams last year and, going into the Pack's Thanksgiving Day game in Detroit today, has helped 9-1 Green Bay to its best start since 1962, Jamie wasn't a great athlete.

He played freshman football at Fairmont, was part of the track team and ended up joining the Army. In late September — five days from being deployed to Iraq and just after getting engaged — he was killed outside Fort Campbell, Ky., by a driver who told police he'd been drinking.

When he'd taken out a pre-Iraq insurance policy, Jamie told his mom that should something happen, he wanted \$50,000 to go to a Fairmont High scholarship fund for athletes just like he had been.

Jamie also had been a big Hawk fan — he'd played against him as a freshman — and I included that in a story that

I wrote and A.J. ended up reading.

The football A.J. sent is being auctioned off at Fairmont's Dec. 21 basketball game with Centerville, the proceeds going to the scholarship fund.

As for the shoes, Keith brought them to Linda's home.

"I walked in and she has (Jamie's) Army boots setting there," he said. "I was holding A.J.'s shoes, and we just kind of looked at each other and there was the symbolism, the emotion and we both were pretty misty-eyed."

Today, Keith will be in Detroit watching A.J. play. He goes to every Packers game, and he and his wife even bought a small house in Green Bay just a half-mile from Lambeau Field.

As for Linda, she and husband David will be in their Kettering home. They'll watch the Packers game on TV and have a big dinner that will include Jamie's favorite Scottish mushrooms.

And how about Linda? Does she still feel thankful this day?

Her response, though tearful, was unwavering: "As a parent, you're so close to your kids, you don't see everything they do, everyone they touch ... I know he's not here now, but I've learned he touched so many, many people."

One of them will be playing for the Packers today.

He'll be No. 50.

He'll be wearing new shoes.

Find this article at:

<http://www.daytondailynews.com/o/content/oh/story/sports/high-schools/2007/11/21/ddn112207arch.html>

Check the box to include the list of links referenced in the article.



DaytonDailyNews.com
YOUR #1 LOCAL NEWS SOURCE

BREAKING NEWS LEADER
We update our website with breaking news headlines more often than any other local news source