

Getting Vocal about Rutgers

Although he never took a class at Rutgers, Chris Carlin's passion for the Scarlet Knights is contagious. "There's pandemonium in Piscataway!" Carlin bellowed following Rutgers' dramatic football victory over Louisville on a cold November night in 2006. Nicknamed "Continent" as a producer of the *Mike and the Mad Dog Show* on WFAN radio (660 AM), Carlin became the play-by-play voice of Rutgers football in 2003. Carlin, a native of Chatham, left The Fan after 13 years in 2008 to join SportsNet New York (SNY), where he cohosts the New York Mets pre- and postgame shows as well as *Beer Money* and *Loud Mouths*. In 2008, he became the play-by-play radio voice of Scarlet Knights men's basketball, the sport where, he believes, the next great moment in Scarlet Knights history will take place. — *Bill Glovin*



Chris Carlin, who will forever be remembered for his exuberant response to Rutgers' defeat of Louisville in 2006, once produced the *Mike and the Mad Dog Show* on WFAN.

Rutgers Magazine: You're not a Rutgers alumnus, but you seem to have a special affection for Rutgers football.

Chris Carlin: Growing up in New Jersey, I would be very annoyed when I heard people make fun of the state. We deserved more respect. The football and women's basketball programs have gone a long way toward accomplishing that nationally.

RM: That Louisville game seemed to launch your Rutgers broadcasting career. Has it been the highlight of your broadcasting career?

CC: It was *the* sports event that night in America. Rutgers fell way behind, but I never got the feeling it was over. And I have never seen a defensive performance like we saw from Rutgers in the second half of that game.

When we won, "pandemonium in Piscataway" just popped into my head. At the end of the game, Tim [Perneti RC'93, SCILS'95, then a radio analyst] didn't say a word. We were both in tears. People had kicked Rutgers football around

for too long. Winning that game announced to the world that we had arrived.

RM: You began broadcasting RU basketball in 2008. What's the difference between calling football and basketball games?

CC: Basketball is such a fast-moving sport compared to football, where you can regroup after every stoppage of play. Basketball is a game of runs and constant action. I learned so much about the game working with Dick Lloyd [GSE'68, former Rutgers coach and now color analyst] last season. I still have a ways to go.

RM: What's it going to take Rutgers to field a winning men's basketball team?

CC: Coach [Fred] Hill has them going in the right direction, but it's not easy competing in the best conference in the nation. Talented young players such as sophomores Mike Rosario and Gregory Echenique are already here. More talent joined them this year. We're going to start seeing results.