

Awards, scholarships to feature 42nd OVAC Spring Awards fete

The 42nd annual Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Spring Awards Dinner, the social highlight of the valley's scholastic sports year, will be held Thursday evening at Oglebay Park's Glessner Auditorium.

Guest speaker for the event will be Bobby Ross, head football coach at the University of Maryland.

A cocktail party at 5:30 will get the evening's festivities underway, with the dinner scheduled to begin at 7.

One of the highlights of the evening will be the presentation of the OVAC's coach of the year award, to be presented by Bill Van Horne, sports editor of the Wheeling News Register.

Among other special award recipients will be Art Timberlake, Sam Williams, Joe Krivak, Ken Steiner and John Clark. The David Bierkorte Memorial Award for the most outstanding wrestler in the OVAC tournament will be presented by Mickey Duffy of the sponsoring Wheeling Central Boosters to Barnesville High heavyweight Tim Moxley.

In addition, various scholarships will be presented, including those sponsored by Wheeling National Bank, Pepsi Cola of Moundsville, the Ohio Valley Wrestling Coaches Association (George Kovalick Scholarship), the Ohio Valley Board of Approved Baseball Umpires, the Daniel Burke Memorial Foundation and the Ohio Valley Board of Approved Football Officials.

Joe Holubeck of St. Clair Lanes will present special awards to the winners of the OVAC Foundation's "Bowlerama." They are Shelley J. Swanson, Toronto Lanes (141 average and over winner); Nancy Watkins, Rose Bowl Lanes, Wheeling (140 average and under winner); Kevin McConnell, J&R Lanes, New Athens (171 average and over winner); and Tommy L. Hall, Monroe Lanes, Woodsfield (170 average and under winner).

George Kellas of WTRF-TV in Wheeling will serve as master of ceremonies while Kara Bright of Buckeye Central Junior High in Dillonvale, will offer the invocation

and benediction.

Awards will be presented to conference champions in all winter and most spring sports, including:

Boys Basketball - 4-A, Weirton (coach Jack Kostur); 3-A, Wheeling Central (coach Skip Prosser); 2-A, Wellsville (coach Bob Flint); 1-A, Skyvue (coach Mark Huffman); Girls Basketball (Ohio side) - 3-A, Steubenville (coach Roger Micker); 2-A, Wellsville (coach Randy Young); 1-A, St. John Central (coach Bob Zevnk).

Girls Volleyball (W. Va. side) - 3-A, 4-A Magnolia (coach Pam Duncan); 2-A, 1-A Bishop Donahue (Pam Gongola). Dual Meet Wrestling - 4-A, Oak Glen (coach Larry Shaw); 3-A, Meadowbrook (coach Russ Spence); 2-A, Cadiz (coach John Stephenson); 1-A, Cameron (coach Jim Potts).

Tennis - overall girls champion, Brooke (coach Nolan VanGilder); W. Va. side boys champion, Linsly (coach Bob Reeves); Ohio side boys champion, East Liverpool (coach Phil Kelly).

Girls Softball - 3-A, John Marshall (coach Pancho Flores); 2-A, Buckeye South (coach Leon Berze); 1-A, Bishop Donahue (coach Tom Tribbett).

Boys Track - 4-A, Bellaire (coach Bruce Stolz); 3-A, Toronto (coach Larry Jones); 2-A, Linsly (coach Eudie Joseph); 1-A, Shadyside (coach Tom Vichich).

Girls Track - 4-A, John Marshall (coach John Snively); 3-A, Wheeling Central (coach Floyd Deaton); 2-A, 1-A, Stanton (coach Karen Lundquist).

Maryland's Ross To Speak At OVAC Spring Banquet

Bobby Ross, highly successful head football coach at the University of Maryland, will be the guest speaker for the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference's annual spring dinner and awards night, which is scheduled for Thursday, May 16, at Glessner Auditorium in Oglebay Park's Wilson Lodge.

The spring dinner is the social highlight of the OVAC's year, with many scholarships, team champion awards, and other special awards presented.

"We are extremely pleased to have Coach Ross accept our invitation to be our principal speaker," said OVAC executive secretary Sam Mumley, himself a Maryland alumnus. "He has done a remarkable job with the Maryland program and, from all accounts, his teams in the next several years should rank among the best in the nation. With his outlook, his organizational ability, his views on recruiting, classroom work and all phases of coaching, he has impressed those who know him that he is not only a winner but a great credit to intercollegiate sports."

Ross, who had been an assistant coach with the Kansas City Chiefs, accepted the Maryland job in January of 1982, as successor to Jerry Claiborne, who moved to Kentucky. In his three years as head mentor of the Terps, Maryland has won 25 of 36 games, has played in three consecutive bowl games, and won back-to-back Atlantic Coast Conference championships. He has won 15 of 16 ACC games and opens the '85 season with the third longest winning streak in the nation in Division I-A.

In the last three years, Maryland has been to the Aloha Bowl, the Florida Citrus Bowl, and the Sun Bowl.

Ross, 48, is a native of Richmond, Va., and attended Virginia Military Institute, where he was a letterman



Bobby Ross

in football, basketball, and baseball. He played quarterback and defensive back for the Keydets and was captain of the team in his senior year of 1958.

After one year of high school coaching, Ross spent three years in the service as an army lieutenant. He returned to high school coaching ranks at Colonial Heights, Va., and was there three years before joining the VMI staff in 1965. He moved to William & Mary as an assistant in 1967 and in 1971 took a job on the staff at Rice. He served as linebacker coach under Claiborne at Maryland in '72 and then became head coach at The Citadel, where he produced the school's all-time leaders in passing, rushing and place-kicking.

Ross, who is married and has five children, left The Citadel in 1978 to become a defensive and special teams coach with the NFL's K.C. Chiefs, then piloted by Marv Levy. In

'80, he switched to offensive backfield coach, a position he held for two years before returning to Maryland.

Under Ross, the Terps have become known for their imaginative and exciting offensive play and for their amazing resiliency. In 1982, his team started out with road losses to Penn State and WVU but recovered to post an 8-3 record and went on to Hawaii for the Aloha Bowl, where it lost to Washington, 21-20. Last year the Terps entered the season with a young lineup and again got off to an on 0-2 start but bounced back to win eight of the next nine, with the only loss being a 25-24 decision to Penn State.

One of the 1984 victories was hailed as the greatest comeback in the history of college football as Maryland rallied from a 31-0 deficit against the Miami Hurricanes (and Bernie Kosar) to post a 42-40 victory. In the Sun Bowl, the Terrapins fell behind, 21-0, in the first half against Tennessee but rallied to win, 28-27.

Joe Krivak, former Weirton Madonna coach, is supervising the quarterbacks and wide receivers for Ross. Krivak is expected to accompany his boss to Oglebay.

The banquet is open to the public, with a special invitation extended to all school personnel, school board members and Booster Club members. Mumley emphasizes, "The ladies are very welcome and we will have a number among our honorees."

Tickets are selling for \$11. They may be obtained by telephoning any of the conference schools or by contacting Rudy Mumley at 277-2683 or Sam Mumley Sr. at 695-5168.

There will be a refreshment hour at 5:30 and dinner will be served at 7.