

OVAC Banquet of Champions set Wednesday

A total of 53 championship teams and more than 1,000 athletes will be honored at the Wheeling Civic Center during Wednesday night's eighth annual Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Banquet of Champions, sponsored by the Kroger Company and Cameron Coca-Cola.

Principal speaker for the evening will be Tom Skladany, three-time All-American kicker who still holds the school record for the longest field goal in Ohio State University history.

Also highlighting the evening will be the presentation of 14 scholarships and several special awards, with the program capped by the announcement of the winner of the *Wheeling News-Register*-sponsored OVAC Coach of the Year Award. Bill Van Horne, sports editor of the *News Register*, will make this presentation.

The dinner begins at 6:30 p.m. Doors at the Civic Center open at 5:30.

Tickets, priced at \$12 each, are still available for the general public. Reservations can be made by calling dinner chairman Jerry Vinci at 859-6307 or OVAC Executive Secretary Sam Mumley at 695-5168.

Scholarship awards will be presented by the Kroger Company, Whiteside Chevrolet-Olds, OVAC Foundation Board, Pepsi-Cola, Wheeling National Bank, OVAC Baseball Coaches, and the Ohio Valley Board of Approved Basketball Officials.

Also to be presented will be the Daniel M. Burke Wrestling Scholarship, George Kovalick Wrestling Scholarship, Henry Lazasz Basketball Scholarship, Richard Pitts Basketball Scholarship and the OVAC Cheerleading Scholarship.

Special presentations include the Dave Blerkorte Memorial Award and the Calvin Giffin Memorial Track Service Award.

The Blerkorte Award, presented by the Wheeling Central Boosters, goes to the outstanding wrestler in the OVAC tournament. This year's recipient is Kelly Shields of Edison South High School.

Harry Diehl, long-time track coach at Stanton Local and Edison North High Schools, will be presented the Giffin Award. Diehl has served as a state track official for many years and was the founder and organizer of the Stanton Relays, Jefferson County Relays and the Tri-County Relays.

The *News Register* Coach of the Year Award has been presented annually since 1969. The winner is determined via a vote among area media members. Last year's balloting ended in a tie between Cameron High wrestling coach Jim Potts and Cambridge boys' basketball mentor Gene Ford.

Rat Clutter, news director for WTRF-TV Channel 7, will be the banquet toastmaster. Moundsville resident Burt Jernigan will sing the national anthem. Scheduled for remarks are Jerry Williams, zone manager for the Kroger Company, and Wendy Cameron, general sales manager for Cameron Coca-Cola.

Main speaker Skladany earned both All-American and All-Big Ten Conference honors three years in a

Past OVAC Coaches of Year

1969 — Frank Baxter, Bridgeport, basketball
 1970 — Henry Lazasz, Warren Consolidated, basketball
 1971 — Chuck Watt, Steubenville, basketball
 1972 — Tom Korab, Steubenville Central, football
 1973 — Lou Nocida, Magnolia, football
 1974 — Bill Hinegardner, John Marshall, wrestling, and Jay Circozia, Woodfield, football
 1975 — Rich Wilinski, Toronto, football
 1976 — Sam Andy, Wheeling, basketball
 1977 — Tom Vichich, Shadyside, track
 1978 — Terry Leggett, Buckeye Trail, basketball
 1979 — Lou Nocida, Sistersville, football
 1980 — Jim Thomas, Wheeling Central, football
 1981 — John Stanko, Bishop Donahue, basketball
 1982 — Mel Coleman, Wintersville, basketball
 1983 — Skip Frosser, Wheeling Central, basketball
 1984 — Mark Huffman, Skyvue, basketball
 1985 — Reno Saccoccia, Steubenville, football
 1986 — Bud Billiard, Brooke, football
 1987 — George Strager, St. Clairsville, football
 1988 — Dave LaMotte, Bridgeport, wrestling
 1989 — Reno Saccoccia, Steubenville, football
 1990 — Chuck Watt, Steubenville, basketball
 1991 — Bud Billiard, Brooke, football
 1992 — Gene Ford, Cambridge, basketball; Jim Potts, Cameron, football and wrestling.

Sports Deals

FOOTBALL
 Class 4-A — John Marshall (Mike Linsky); Class 3-A — Magnolia (Dave Cisar); Class 2-A — Steubenville Central (Greg Bisher); Class 1-A — Beakville (Dave Caldwell).

BOYS BASKETBALL
 Class 4-A — Cambridge (Gene Ford); Class 3-A — Bellaire (Gene Ammirante); Class 2-A — Steubenville Central (Frank Spence); Class 1-A — Paden City (Bob Burton).

W.V.A. GIRLS BASKETBALL
 Class 3-A, 4-A — Brooke (Sue Foster); Class 2-A, 1-A — Wainon Madonne (Chuck Herster).

OHIO GIRLS BASKETBALL
 Class 3-A — Bellaire (Gregg Bonar); Class 2-A — Union Local (Steve Lapock); Class 1-A — Beakville (Bob Phillips).

WRESTLING
 Class 4-A — Wheeling Park (Buzz Evans); Class 3-A — Barnesville (Jeff Crozier); Class 2-A — Wellsville (Mike Kinzel); Class 1-A — Cameron (Jim Potts) (dual meet champions).

BOYS TRACK
 Class 4-A — Wheeling Park (Bernie Dolan); Class 3-A — Bellaire (Bruce Stoltz); Class 2-A — Wellsville (Howard Gilger); Class 1-A — Shadyside (John Stanko).

GIRLS TRACK
 Class 4-A — John Marshall (Mike Derrrow); Class 3-A — Martins Ferry (Derk Fitch); Class 2-A — Wellsville (Bruce Feick); Class 1-A — St. John Central (Bob Kaspar).

SOCCER
 Overall — Linsky School (Pat Zambito).
BOYS CROSS COUNTRY
 Class 4-A — Cambridge (Pete Nordstrom); Class 3-A — Martins Ferry (Joe Ellis); Class 2-A, 1-A — Shadyside (Donna Joseph).

GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY
 Class 4A, 3-A — John Marshall (Mike Derrrow); Class 2-A, 1-A — Cameron (Dave Evans).

GOLF
 Class 4-A — Cambridge (Jeff Carroll); Class 3-A — St. Clairsville (LeRoy Holt); Class 2-A, 1-A — Linsky School (Mark Zavratsky).

OHIO GIRLS VOLLEYBALL
 Class 3-A — Bellaire (Marie Shipley); Class 2-A — Steubenville Central (Sherril Stallone); Class 1-A — Edison North (Karen Lundquist).

W.V.A. GIRLS VOLLEYBALL
 Class 3-A, 4-A — Weir (Ken Lehr); Class 2-A, 1-A — Linsky School (Dr. David Malow).

GIRLS SOFTBALL
 Class 4-A — John Marshall (Pancho Flores); Class 3-A — Wintersville (Jim DiCarlo); Class 2-A — Wheeling Central (Ed City); Class 1-A — Shadyside (R.J. Windows).

BOYS TENNIS
 Overall — Wheeling Central (Mary Hennen and Peggy Dader).

GIRLS TENNIS
 Overall — Wheeling Park (Larry Lamb).

BASEBALL
 Winners of Saturday's championship games

CHEERLEADING
 Class 4-A — Wheeling Park (Kim Sancer); Class 3-A — Wheeling Central (Paula Thomas); Class 2-A — Valley (Connie Deban); Class 1-A — Paden City (Linda Alexander).