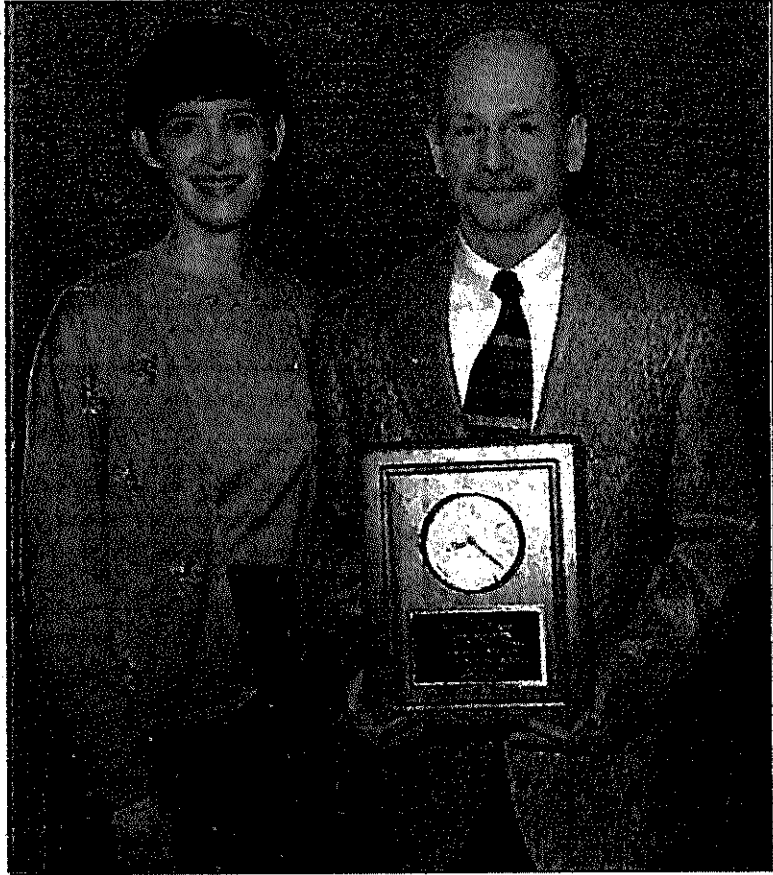


Kovalick Award



RECEIVING the George Kovalik Wrestling Scholarship at the recent OVAC Banquet of Champions was Steve Ochap, left, of Wheeling Park. Dave Kovalick presented the award. T-L Photo/MIKE McNELL

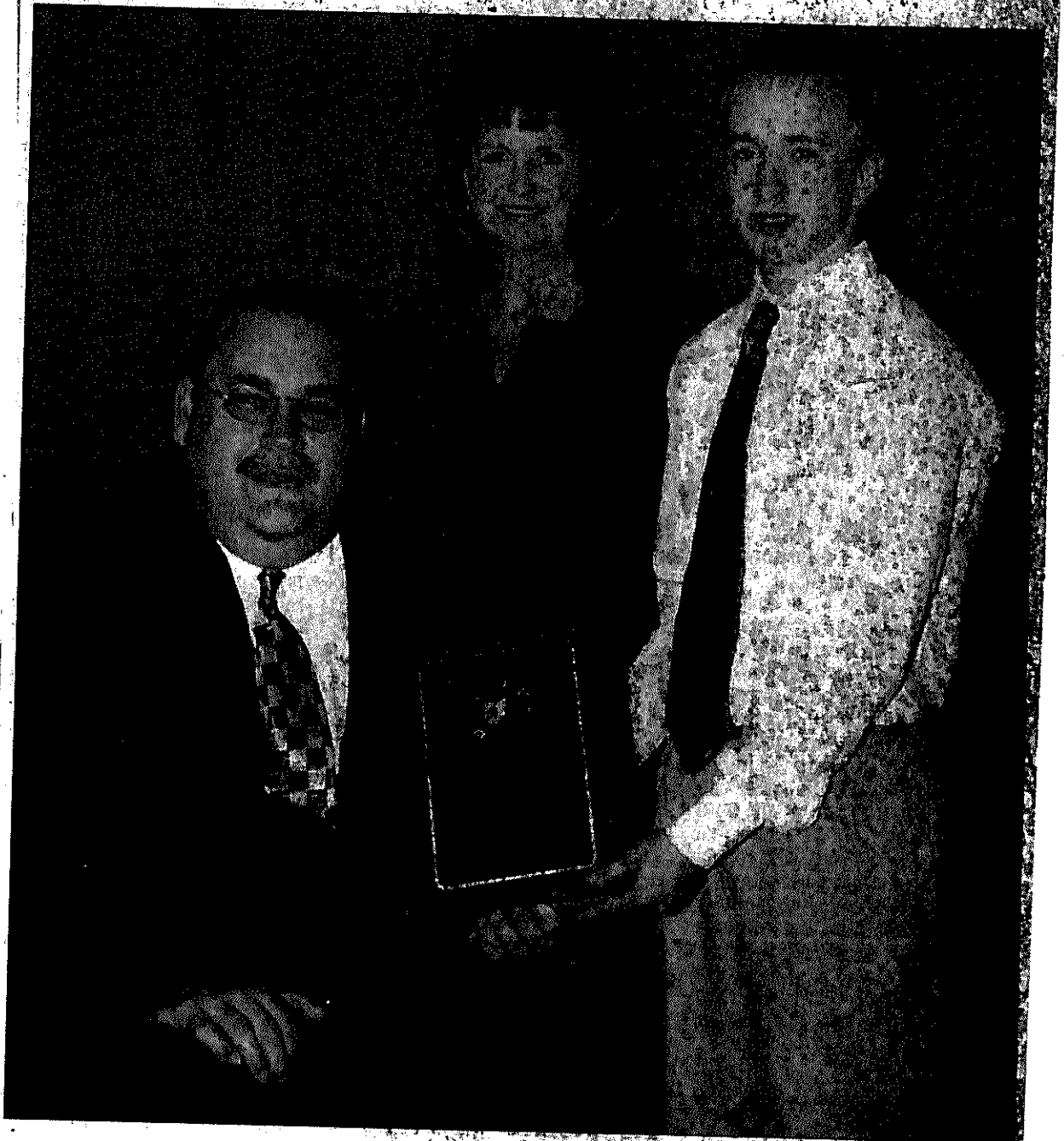
OVAC COACH OF THE YEAR



Alex Kozlowski/The Intelligencer

Oak Glen wrestling coach Larry Shaw stands with his plaque after receiving the award for the OVAC's Coach of the Year with his wife Cindy standing to his right. The award was given out at Monday's OVAC Awards Banquet at the Wheeling Civic Center.

Burke Award



RECEIVING THE Daniel M. Burke Memorial Scholarship at the recent Ohio Valley Baseball Champions was Zach Zubay, right, of Oak Glen. Presenting the award were Pete Cuffaro and [unclear].

OVAC's 15th Banquet of Champions Monday Night at Whg. Civic Center

Van Horne/News-Register Coach of the Year Award to cap evening

The Ohio Valley Athletic Conference sports season concludes Monday night when the 15th annual Banquet of Champions unfolds at the Wheeling Civic Center.

Team champions and coaches involved in 18 sports will be honored during the evening which begins with dinner being served at 6:30 p.m. The doors to the Civic Center open at 5:30.

Presentation of the annual Bill Van Horne/News-Register OVAC Coach of the Year Award.

Two other special awards include the Dave Bierkorte Award, which goes to the most valuable wrestler at this year's OVAC wrestling championships; and the Cal Giffen Memorial Track Service Award, presented to a male or female for outstanding contributions to the sport of track and field.

The evening will also include the presentation of scholarship awards, valued at approximately \$15,000, to many of the outstanding scholar-athletes attending OVAC-member schools.

Pre-dinner music will be provided by the Valley High School Steel Drum Band. Kerry Mitch of Wheeling Park High School will sing the national anthem. Scott Nolte, WTRF-TV again has agreed to serve as the master of ceremonies.

Major sponsors of the dinner are the OVAC Foundation Board, Wendy's Restaurant, and the Kroger Company. The banquet chairman is Ron White of Buckeye Local High School.



OVAC Honor Roll 2000-2001 Champions, Coaches

Golf
Class A—Linsly School, Mark Zavatsky; Class AA—Wheeling Central, Mickey Duffy; Class AAA—Meadowbrook, Mel Peault.

Boys' Cross-Country
Class A—Shadyside, Joel Joseph; Class AA—Caldwell, Dugan Hill; Class AAA—Harrison Central, Ron Cochenour; Class AAAA—Zanesville, Herb Fitzer.

Girls' Cross-Country

Class A—Shadyside, Joel Joseph; Class AA—Barnesville, Mark Brown; Class AAA—Martins Ferry, Joe Ellis; Class AAAA—John Marshall, James Hudson.

Girls' Soccer

Division I—Wheeling Park, Anthony James; Division II—St. Clairsville, Susan Berkley.

Boys' Soccer

Division I—Wheeling Park, Dale Beattie; Division II—Magnolia, Jeremy Blain.

Volleyball

Class A—Cameron, Sam Bayza; Class AA—Shenandoah, Lynn Milley Tomcha; Class AAA—Indian Creek, Erin DiSantis; Class AAAA—East Liverpool, Bob Shansky.

Football

Class A—Bellairs St. John's Central, Mike Ross; Class AA—Monroe Central, Jay Circosta; Class AAA—Martins Ferry, Dave Brunay; Class AAAA—East Liverpool, Robert Thayer.

Wrestling

Class A—Cameron, Jim Potts; Class AA—Barnesville, Jeff Crozier; Class AAA—Larry Shaw; Class AAAA—East Liverpool, Scott Helmitra.

Swimming

Boys—Staubenville Catholic, Kay Beth Calabria; Girls—Staubenville, Rick West.

Cheering

Class A—Wellton Madonn, Stephanie Galch; Class AA—Wheeling Central, Cheryl Zambig; Class AAA—Tyler Consolidated, Diana Stender; Class AAAA—Wheeling Park, Kimberly Miller.

Boys' Basketball

Class A—Shadyside, Ed Andea; Class AA—Fort Frye, Dan Liedtke; Class AAA—Gene Ammirante; Class AAAA—Wheeling Park, Sam Andy.

Girls' Basketball

Class A—Bellairs St. John's Central, Bubba Kapral; Class AA—Fort Frye, Kevin Witucky; Class AAA—St. Clairsville, Mickey Blatnik; Class AAAA—John Marshall, Stan Blankenship.

Girls' Track

Class A—Linsly School, Brande Buffington; Class AA—Staubenville Catholic, Andrew Connor; Class AAA—Martins Ferry, Dirk Fitch; Class AAAA—Cambridge, Charles Fondala.

Boys' Track

Class A—Linsly School, (tie) Dave Plumby, Shadyside, John Trivari; Class AA—Barnesville, Sean McCrate; Class AAA—Martins Ferry, Dirk Fitch; Class AAAA—Cambridge, Dan Oswald.

Tennis

Boys—Linsly School, Dave Reithmiller; Girls—Wheeling Park, Leo Bolazy.

Softball

Class A—Bellsville, Deb Street; Class AA—Wheeling Central, Ambrose Bobar/Rick Magruder; Class AAA—Martins Ferry, Jess Cordery; Class AAAA—Wheeling Park, Tammy Higley.

Baseball

Unavailable

Banquet of Champions Set May 22

Presentation of the annual Bill Van Horne/News-Register Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Coach of the Year Award will be one of many highlights during the upcoming 15th annual OVAC Banquet of Champions.

This year's diner has been scheduled for May 22 at the Wheeling Civic Center. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., with dinner to be served at 6:30.

Last year's coach of the year recipient was Weir High School's Wayne Neely, who coached the Red Rider football team to a perfect 14-0 season, capped by a victory in the West Virginia Class AA state championship game played at Wheeling Island Stadium.

Two other special awards include the Dave Bierkorte Award, which goes to the most valuable wrestler at this year's OVAC wrestling championships; and the Cal Giffen Memorial Track Service Award, which honors a male or female for outstanding contributions to the sport of track and field.

Ron White of Buckeye Local,



who has served as banquet chairman for the past several years, also points out the evening will include the presentation of pennants and awards to the winners of the various sports championships during the 1999-2000 school year. Scholarship awards, valued at approximately, \$15,000, also will be presented to many of the outstanding scholar-athletes attending OVAC-member schools.

Among the scholarship award sponsors include: Kroger; OVAC Foundation; Pepsi-Cola; Anthony-Bodkin Company (soccer); Ollie Olson Memorial (track and cross-

country); George Kovalick Memorial (wrestling); Henry Lazasz (basketball); Richard Potts Memorial (basketball); Wheeling National Bank; Douglas Pilney Memorial (golf); Football Officials; OVAC Cheerleading; Daniel M. Burke Memorial (wrestling); Jim "Dead-eye" Morris Memorial (wrestling); Sam A. Mumley Memorial; and OVAC Swimming Scholarship.

Pre-dinner music will be provided by the Valley High School Steel Drum Band.

Kerry Mitch of Wheeling Park High School, will sing the national anthem. Scott Nolte, WTRF-TV sports director, once again has been designated as the master of ceremonies.

Major sponsors for the dinner are the OVAC Foundation Board, Wendy's Restaurant, and the Kroger Company.

Tickets are priced at \$13 each and can be ordered by calling Ron White at (740) 859-2357 from 7:30 a.m.-2 p.m. or at (304) 277-3599 during evening hours.

No tickets will be sold at the door.

All-Star Classic Seeking 1990 Participants

Players, coaches, team doctors, managers and Queen of Queens representatives from the 1990 Rudy Mumley OVAC All-Star Charity Football Classic will be honored at this year's game to be played Sunday, July 23, at Wheeling Island Stadium.

The All-Star Reunion Committee, headed by Steve Kish, is currently attempt to contact participants from that game.

Following is a list of participants the committee has yet to reach by mail or phone.

Queen of Queens candidates: Kathy Bezak, Buckeye North; Robin Russell, Buckeye South; Wendy Fogle, Martins Ferry; Janette Belanus, Bridgeport; Tammy Drennan, Bellaire; Lori Connors, Bellaire St. John's Central; Kristin Sommers, Shadside; Nikki Ondusko, Edison South; Heidi Balloc, Union Local; Kelly Brown, Beallsville;

Cassandra Van Dyke, Toronto; Melissa Curry, St. Clairsville; Patty Lesky, Weirton Madonna; Wendy Neal, Brooke; Lisa Ann Bouyoucas, Weir; Denise Rowland, Magnolia; Elizabeth Hall, Cameron; Staci Jones, John Marshall; Anyta Boroski, Linsly School; Jennifer Fahey, Wheeling Central; Crystal Weiss, Wheeling Park, and Janie Vojvodich, Wintersville.

West Virginia All-Stars: Tom Mazzone, Larry Palmer, Bob Roksandich, Mike Sissini, Brooke; Cameron; Albert Paezewski, Rick Scott, Cameron; Mike Carman, Jim Shaffer, Linsly School; Kevin Ash, Scott Shreve, Magnolia; Larry Ferrera, Bishop Donahue; Tom Stokes, Paden City; Bob Davis, Brock McCracken, John Marshall; Mike Cooper, Bill Dalrymple, Sistersville; Kevin Holmes, Warren Judge, Tyler County; Shawn Clausell, Jim Keen, Mike Petteway,

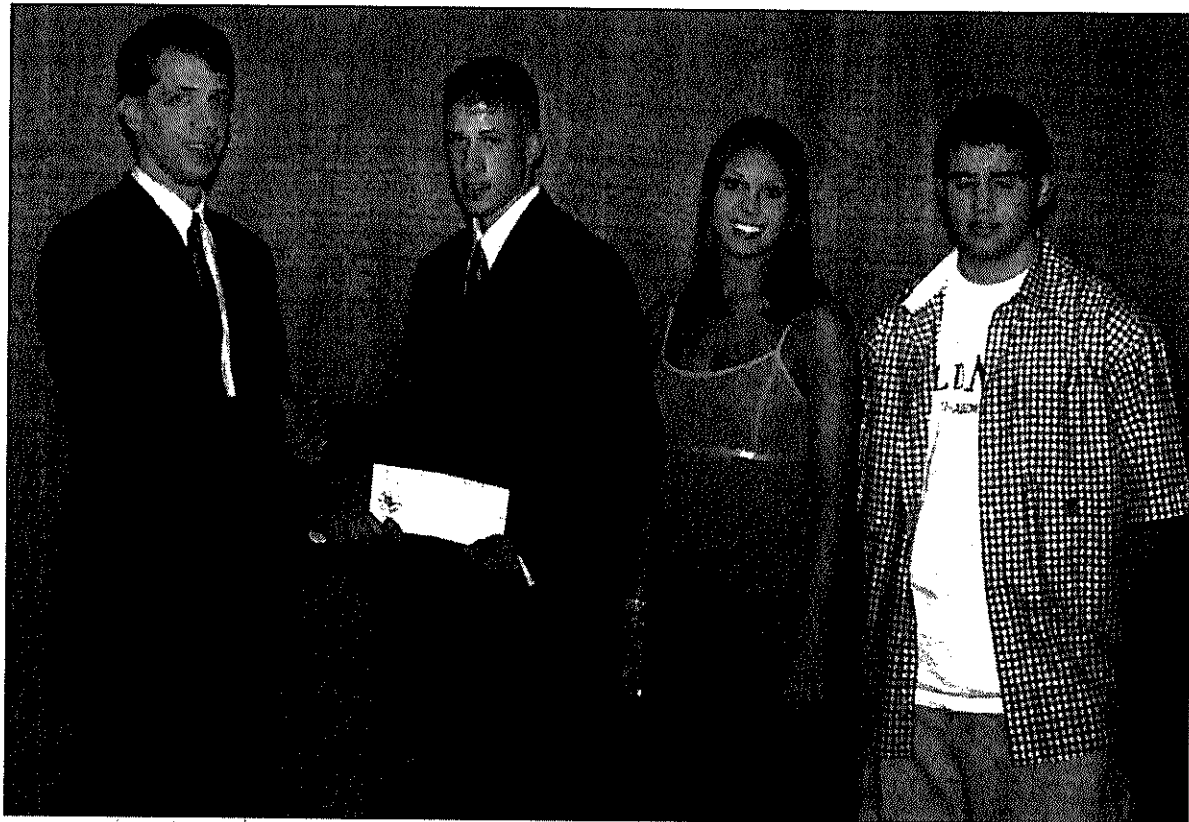
Weir; Chuck Connors and Josh Kolanko, Weirton Madonna; Zack Abraham, Jon Litman, Doug Nelson, Jerry Rehm and Darius Savage, Wheeling Park; and Steve Fuller and Eric Staley, Oak Glen.

Ohio All-Stars: Marcus Raine, Bellaire; Scott Joseph, Martins Ferry; Sam Horvath, Buckeye SouthWest; Frank Marcino, and Jodie Hartzell, Steubenville Catholic Central; Chuck Hython, Steubenville; and Shawn Long, East Liverpool.

Anyone knowing the addresses of the above-mentioned players and queens contest participants should Steve Kish Jr. at (740) 455-3170 prior to June 5. After that date, Kish can be reached at (740) 633-3399 during the day, or (740) 635-0550 at night.

You can also contact Kish by mail at 56971 Ferryview Road, Martins Ferry, OH 43935.

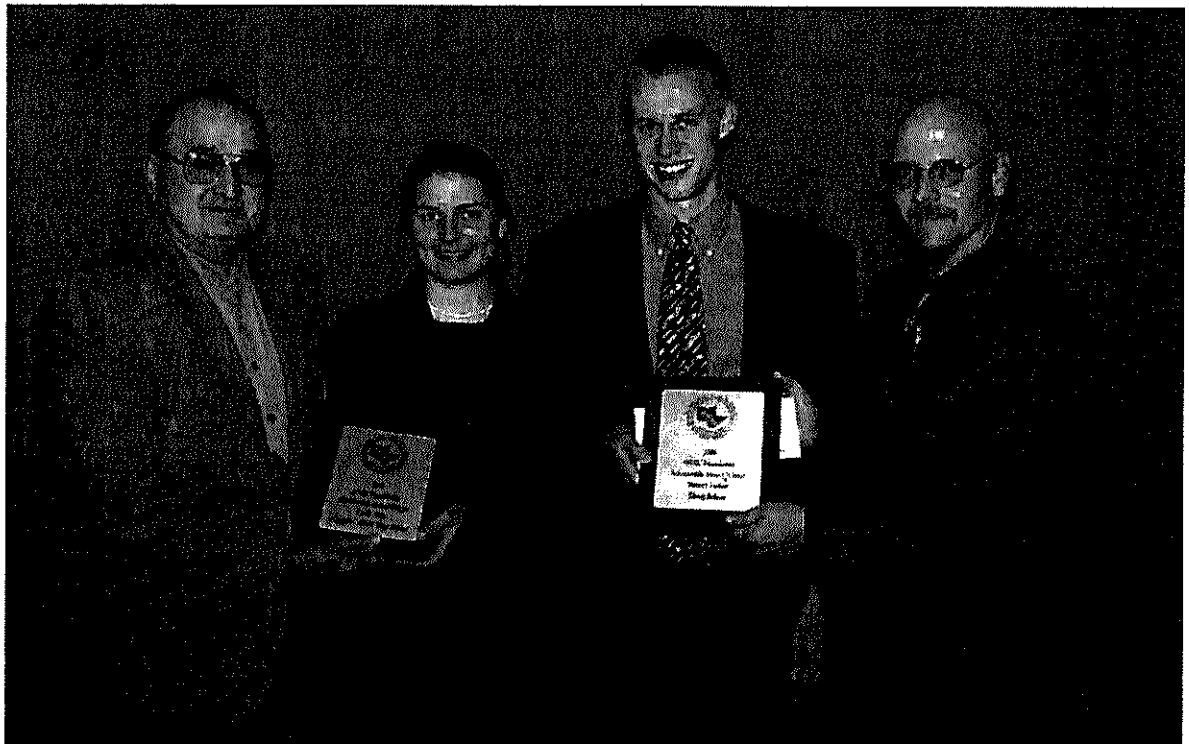
Scholarship Winners



RECEIVING special scholarship awards at the recent Banquet of Champions from Terry Rataiczak, far left, were these individuals. From left are Matt Knox of St. John Central, Henry Lazasz Scholarship; Gina Twardoski of St. Clairville High School, Richard L. Potts Scholarship; and John Marshall's Pete Zervos, Henry Lazasz Scholarship. Absent from photo is Katrina Huff of Brooke, Richard L. Potts Scholarship recipient.

T-1 Photo/MIKE McNELL

OVAC Foundation



T-L photo/MIKE McNELL

TWO LOCAL student/athletes received OVAC Foundation Scholarships at the OVAC Banquet of Champions. Pictured, from left, are Paul Kallivoda, Foundation board member; Emily Volpe of Wheeling Central; Robert Tucker of Linsly School; and Foundation President Doug Sarkis.

OVAC Honoree



RECEIVING THE Bodkin, Wilson and Kozicki Co. Scholarship at the recent Banquet of Champions was Jamie Fox of Wheeling Park. Jack Bodkin presented the award. T-L Photo/MIKE McNEILL

Annual OVAC Banquet of Champions set May 22

The OVAC's annual Banquet of Champions will be held Monday, May 22 at 6:30 p.m. at the Wheeling Civic Center.

The major sponsors for the event are Wendy's, Kroger, Pepsi and the OVAC Foundation. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

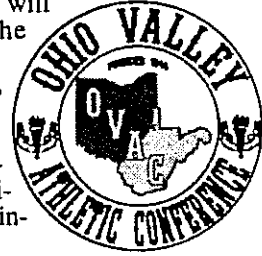
The banquet honors all the OVAC award-winning teams for the current school year. In addition, several other special awards are presented, including the OVAC Coach of the Year.

Some of the other scholarship awards being handed out that night are the George Kovalick Memorial, Henry Lazasz Basketball, Richard Potts Memorial, Wheeling National Bank, Douglas Pilney Memorial, Ohio Valley Football Officials, Kroger, OVAC Foundation, Pepsi, Anthony Bodkin Co. Soccer, Ollie Olson/OVAC Track and Cross Country Memorial, OVAC Cheerleader, Daniel M. Burke, Dead Eye Morris Wrestling and OVAC Swimming scholarship.

The scholarships total some \$15,000.

Tickets cost \$13 and no tickets will be available at the door. Anyone wishing to purchase tickets must call Banquet Director Ron White at 740-859-2357 from 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. or at 304-277-3599 from 3:30 p.m. on.

The Valley High Steel Drum Band will present the pre-dinner music while Wheeling Park's Kerry Mitch will sing the national anthem.



Pilney Scholarship



RECEIVING THE Douglas Pilney Memorial Golf Scholarship at the OVAC Banquet of Champions was Larry R. Boroski II, center. Pictured, from left, are Milan Pilney, Frankie Pilney, Boroski and his parents – Larry and Wilma Boroski.

T-L Photo/MIKE McNELL

OVAC coach of year: No easy choice



By
**BUBBA
KAPRAL**
Times Leader
Sports Editor

The OVAC's Annual Banquet of Champions will be staged Monday at the Wheeling Civic Center.

The event is the mother of all local awards

banquets.

Banquet coordinator Ron White deserves much credit for bringing everything together for a gala celebration.

One of the highlights of the night will be the naming of the OVAC Coach of the Year. It is no easy choice.

A myriad of worthy candidates exist.

In football, Barnesville's Al Treherne, Martins Ferry's Dave Bruney and Beallsville's Dave Caldwell deserve consideration.

Treherne led the 'Rocks to a 10-2 record, which included a playoff win. Bruney drove the Purple Riders to a 9-1 mark and their second straight playoff berth.

Caldwell, meanwhile, took a squad short in numbers and amassed an 8-2 record, good enough to win the top spot in regional playoff race.

In basketball, Magnolia's Dave Thalman, Cambridge's Gene Ford and Bellaire's Gene Ammirante all turned in superlative seasons.

Thalman shocked the basketball world, leading his Blue Eagles to the West Virginia Class AA crown. Ford, meanwhile, took another Bobcat team to the Ohio Division II state tournament. Ammirante led his Big Reds to a 19-1 mark and yet another OVAC crown.

In girls' hoops, both Fort Frye's Kevin Witucky and St. Clairsville's Mickey Blatnik deserve recognition. They both led their respective teams to regional final berths.

In wrestling, Oak Glen's Larry Shaw and Martins Ferry's Babe Sidon guided their grapplers to champion seasons. Shaw's Golden Bears won the OVAC 3-A dual meet title as well as their fourth straight West Virginia Class AA crown.

Sidon, in first year at the Purple helm, led the Riders to the OVAC 3-A Tournament title, the Sectional and District titles as well as a top five finish in the state. He also produced an individual state champion in Scott Roth.

In the spring sports, Steubenville's Fred Heatherington, Toronto's Matt Morrison and Tom Niva of St. John's all should be cited for impressive success.

On the track, first Martins Ferry's Dick Eick and



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On the track front, Martins Ferry's Dirk Fitch and Magnolia guru Craig Schneid continue to crank out team and individual winners.

It's a shame only one coach will leave with the brass ring. Many are deserving.

