

SIDELINER

Pete Spuhler  
245 State, N.E.  
832-8882

Fred Steiner  
2603 Harsch, S.E.  
833-5897

Paul Studer, Jr.  
138 Thorne Ave., N.E.  
833-5227

Richard Swanson  
3340 Meadowwood, N.W.  
832-2476

Donald Syler  
818 - 9th St., N.E.  
833-3988

Russell Venables  
815 Wales Rd., N.E.  
832-5920

Reed Wallace  
Brewster-Mt. Eaton Rd. Rd#3  
Navarre-Wilmont 359-5494

Jim Weber  
724 - 14th St., S.W.  
833-0384

Ron Whisler  
1417 - 11th St., N.E.  
832-6717

Ron Williams  
714 Burd Ave., N.E.  
833-2932

Dave Wilson  
1875 Lincoln Way E.  
832-8615

John Wilson  
728 Commonwealth, N.E.  
833-4887

Jerry Wolfman  
104 Lincoln Way W.  
833-2686

Ron Wright  
2210 Massachusetts, S.E.  
832-8245

TEAM MEMBER

Scott Graber (Sr.)  
937 Green Ave., S.W.  
832-4354

Mike Rowe (Jr.)  
500 - 23rd St., N.E.  
832-9674

Bob Stephan (Sr.)  
707 Euclid Ave., S.W.

Joe Matie (Sr.)  
313 - 4th St., S.E.  
833-8388

Krist Gugov (Sr.)  
727 Griffith, S.W.  
832-0559

Andy Heath (Jr.)  
44 Warwick Ave., N.W.  
833-1892

Steve Studer (Sr.)  
138 Thorne Ave., N.E.  
833-5227

William Wonsick (Sr.)  
3255 Lincoln Way W.  
833-7770

Bob Geiser (Jr.)  
511 Lincoln Way E.  
832-0973

Chris Simpson (Jr.)  
1327 Johnson, S.E.  
832-5750

Dave Shumar (Sr.)  
102 - 23rd St., N.W.  
832-4212

James Ely (Sr.)  
1219 - 11th St., N.E.  
832-6131

Alex Wood (Jr.)  
1705 Connecticut Ave., S.E.  
832-3343

Willie Spencer (Sr.)  
1109 Johnson Ave., S.E.  
833-5334





**TIGER 1972 AWARD WINNERS** — These Washington high players have won the major awards presented to Tiger footballers. Pictured (left to right) after the awards night celebration in the school's auditorium are Don Muhlbach, Tiger Sideliners' Citizen Athlete award; Tom Hannon, Reese's Raiders' "E" award; Tom Balizet, Tiger Touchdown Club Hard-Nose award; Dari Edwards, Jaycees Bob Smith Memorial award and Duckey Schroeder award, and Alex Wood, Coaches Appreciation award. Hannon holds the Associated Press state championship trophy and Balizet, the United Press International state title hardware.

(Independent Staff Photo)

## Tiger fete kind of different

By **CHUCK HESS, JR**  
Independent Sports Editor  
It was kind of different Thursday night in the Washington high auditorium even though it was the school's annual football awards night.

The team and players had been fed before at the Four Winds restaurant near Meyers Lake park west of Canton. There was no banquet in the school cafeteria for the fans, but the cheerleaders will get one.

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**MASTER OF CEREMONIES** Bob Immel called the night's festivities "the school's Christmas party."

He added, "Many traditions have been broken this year."

Then Immel asked for and got a standing ovation for the players.

Special citations went to tight end **Darius Edwards** (Duckey Schroeder award), featuring a \$400 scholarship; strong safety **Don Muhlbach** (Tiger Sideliners' Citizen Athlete award); fullback **Alex Wood** (Coaches appreciation award) and halfback **Tom Hannon**, guard **Larry Mayles** and tackle **Bob Geiser**, tri-captain awards.

**Junie Studer**, Tiger Booster club president; **Jim Bryant**, Tiger Sideliner president, and Head Coach **Bob Commings** were the presenters.

Commings also awarded autographed footballs to the four Tiger Booster Presidents who have served him: **Studer**, **Don McFarren**, **Bill Arnold** and **Ron Wright**. Studer presented a special plaque to **Maury Basler**, whom he called "the Tigers' No. 1 fan."

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**STUDER ALSO** introduced 1973 Booster club president **Gene Boerner**.  
**Jim Muzzy**, sports director of

Canton Radio Station **WHBC**, presented United Press International's state championship trophy to school Principal **Clifford Wilson**.

This reported presented the Associated Press state title trophy to the Tiger tri-captains. **Wilson**, substituting for ailing Superintendent **Lloyd J. McCrory**, praised the Tiger Swing band and the team.

In introducing **Commings**, Immel hoped he would stay with Massillon for awhile.

"Men of your calibre are hard to find," he said.

Commings commented that the Tigers lost to Cincinnati Princeton in the playoffs, but added:

\*\*\*  
"I HAVEN'T heard one excuse from our players yet. They're a fine bunch of kids and deserved a better fate. We shall return."

He mused about the awards night program, wondering if perhaps a mistake hadn't been made in not having a banquet because it took the fans out of some atmosphere that maybe should have been there.

Commings praised the high quality of young men on the team and presented some compliments they had received from outsiders.

"I never said we didn't have good players, but I did say we didn't have great athletes," he said, in taking a crack at a journalists misquote.

He pointed out that although Massillon didn't win the playoff

the Tigers led the state in the computer ratings by at least 300 points — the most margin in any of the three classes.

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**CURT PERRY**, **Jim Bozzacco** and **Don Muhlbach** invented something new for this year — a senior legacy — and Muhlbach ended the presentation with "The 1972 team would like to will to the 1973 team our comaraderie, brotherhood, good luck and what it means to be a Massillon Tiger."

Commings introduced the team's lettermen and **Jeannine Warner**, this year's new cheerleader advisor, introduced her girls.

Senior team members and managers presented roses to their mothers — a practice started by **Dr. Lee Tressel** when he was head coach here in 1956 and 1957. **Dr. Tressel**, now athletic director at Baldwin-Wallace college, was in attendance Thursday night.

**Jim Billingsley**, Tiger Swing band director, concluded the night's program.

"We spend eight months on the field, he said, and like **Al Jolson** said — 'You ain't seen nothin' yet' — because Massillon has some big plans for its youngsters. You're going to see Massillon like you've never seen it before."

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**BILLINGSLEY ENDED** the program by leading in "The Alma Mater."

A letterman's list will appear latter.

**SIDELINERS**



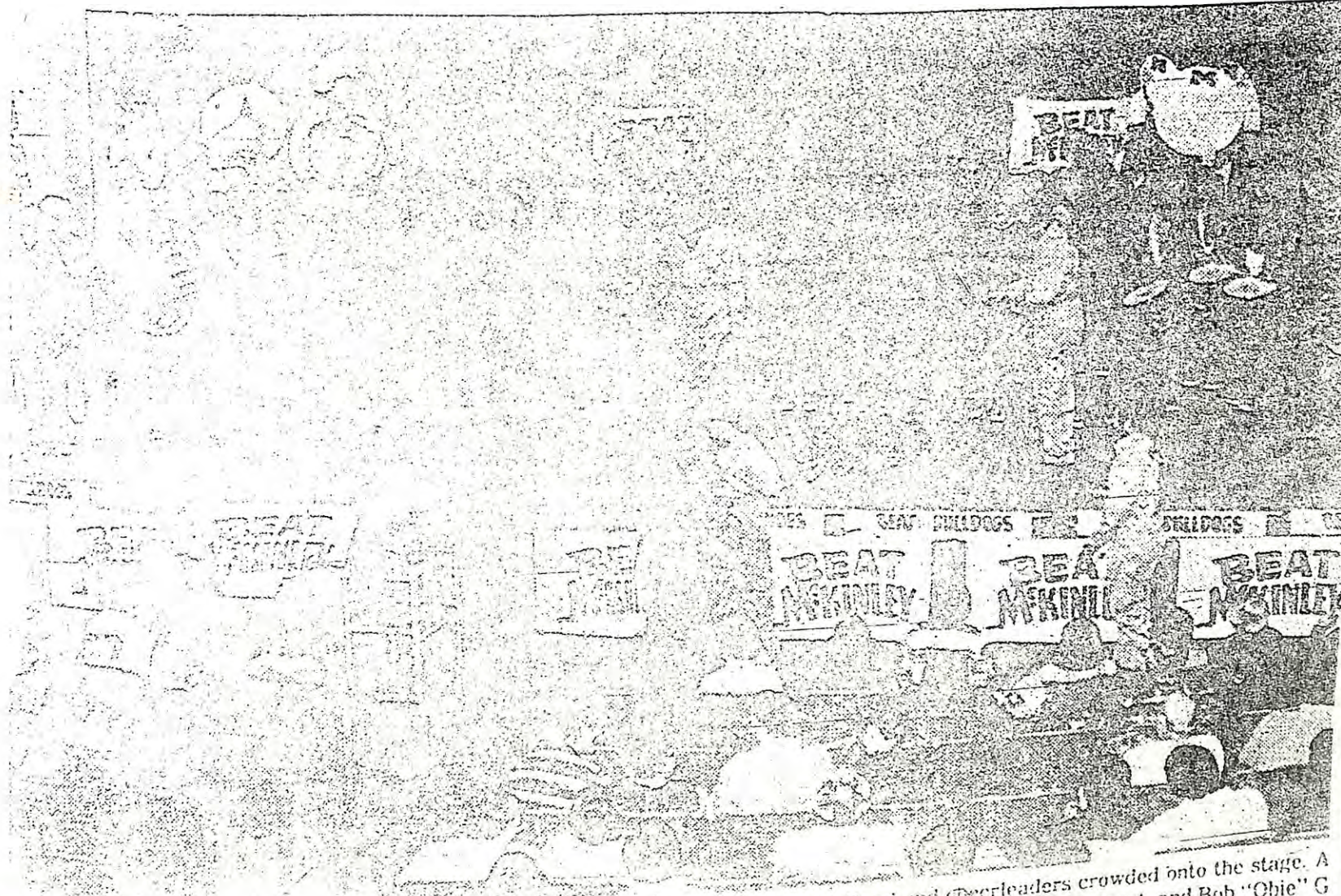
# HISTORY 1973



**WINS AN AWARD** — Charles Danzy (center), is presented the Tiger Touchdown Club's Hard Nose Award by President Dick Brunn (right). Looking on is 1974 President, the Rev. Robert Hoover, pastor of Central Presbyterian Church. The award was presented at the TD Club's final meeting of the year, Monday noon at the Massillon Club.

(Independent Staff Photo)

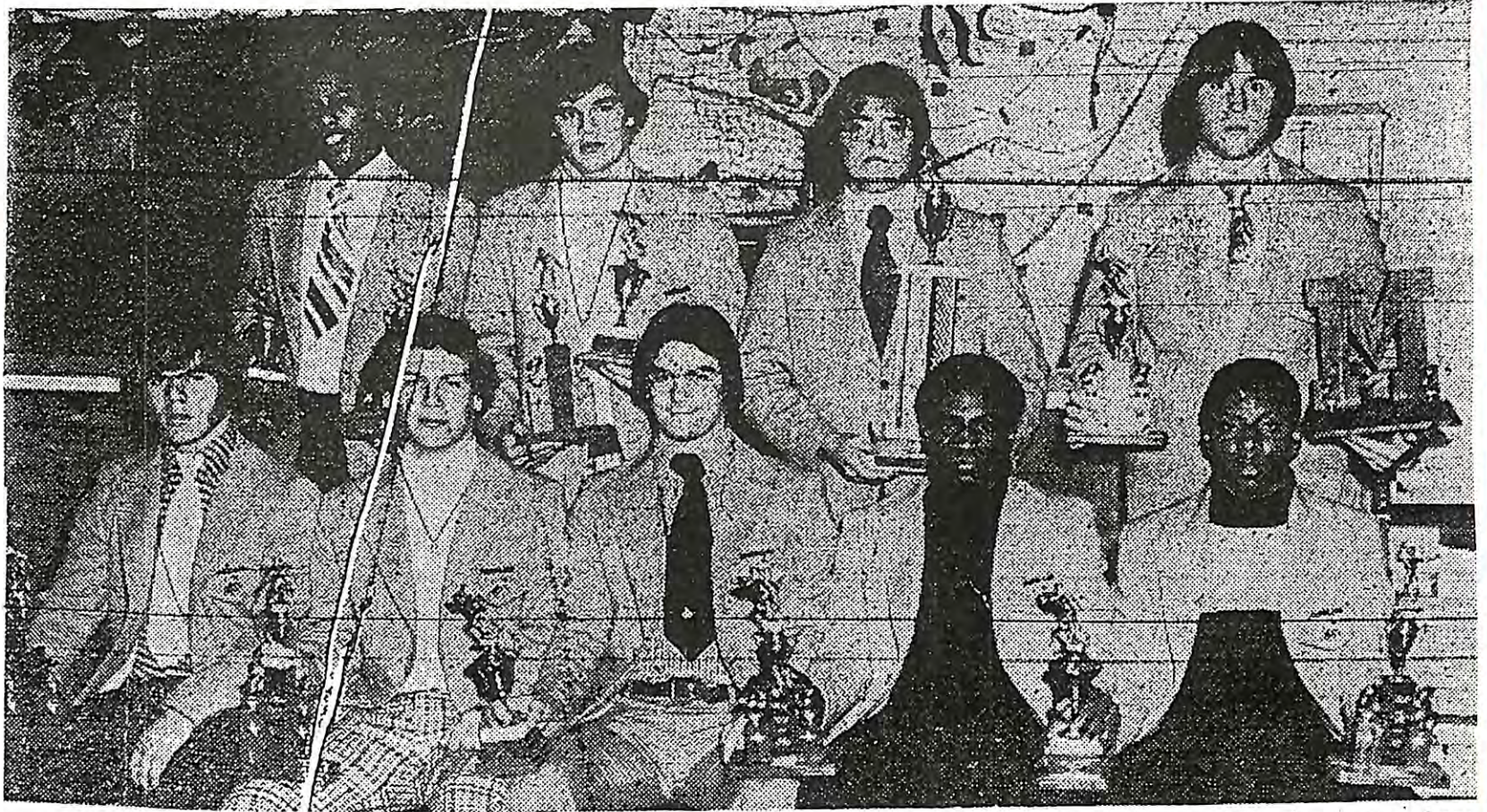
# SIDELINERS



**HEAVING UP FOR MCKINLEY GAME** — This was the scene Wednesday night in the Washington High School Auditorium as the Tiger Booster Club held its annual "Beat McKinley" meeting. The

Tiger Swing Band and cheerleaders crowded onto the stage. A on hand were Obie-IV, the live Tiger mascot, and Bob "Obie" G in the Tiger skin.  
(Independent Staff Photo)





**TIGERS REWARDED** — These are members of the Washington High School football team honored at Thursday night's annual grid banquet. From left (seated): Chris Rich, Dave Dowd, Tim Gutshall, Gary Waldrop and Greg Wood; (standing): Mark Streeter, Joe Studer, Dan Nagle and Bill Harmon. Absent: Thee Lemon (Independent Staff Photo)

## 1975 stage set for Tigers

By **CHUCK HESS JR.**  
Independent Sports Editor

They had a taste of what the victory road was like in their 20-15 win over Canton McKinley last month and the stage was set Thursday night for the Orange and Black to follow that highway to even greater heights in 1975, — the state championship plateau.

Massillon Superintendent of Schools L. C. Young dropped a hint. Principal Cliff Wilson followed suit and Washington High School head coach Chuck Shuff echoed the sentiments.

THE SCENE was the annual WHS Football Awards Banquet

held before 600 fans in the school cafeteria.

So that the team and the fans would not forget the feel of victory, the invocation of the Rev. Robert Hoover, pastor of Central Presbyterian Church and retiring Tiger Touchdown Club president, was followed by the movies of Eddie "Tinker" Bell's catch of Greg Wood's pass for the winning TD against McKinley, with six seconds left at Tiger Stadium last month.

The score was printed on the front of the banquet program and on the souvenir glasses which had been positioned at each place.

"Remember, the Tigers will

come alive in '75," Young said.

"The Tigers are back and I'm very proud of them," Wilson commented.

"JUNIORS, TAKE a good look at these seniors," Shuff said, pointing to the 33 young men standing in front of the speakers' table. They've started something and you can follow in their footsteps. If you play like they did on one given Saturday, nothing will stop you."

Ten players received special recognition Thursday night. Three of them were also recognized for previous honors. Here is the list:

Dave Dowd, senior guard — Tiger Sideline Citizen Athlete Award; Tim Gutshall, senior tight end and linebacker — captain's trophy and re-recognition for having earned the Bob Smith Memorial Award, Reese's Raiders "E" Award and Jim Muzzy Scholastic Achievement Award; Thee Lemon, senior tight end and defensive back — re-recognition for having earned the team's Most Valuable Player Award;

Chris Rich, senior defensive tackle — Best Defensive Lineman Award; Mark Streeter, senior tailback and defensive halfback — captain's trophy and Best Defensive Back Award; Joe Studer, senior center and defensive end — captain's trophy and Ducky Schroeder Scholarship for Best Offensive Lineman (also won by brother Steve in 1971, first time for two brothers to win it).

HISTORY

1974

SEE NEXT PAGE



# Win-loss record not always what counts

By **CHUCK HESS JR.**  
Independent Sports Editor  
It isn't always the win-loss record of a team that counts. A crowd of 525 found that out Tuesday night in the Washington High cafeteria as speaker after speaker cited the 1975 Tiger football team's attitude, outstanding discipline and academic proficiency.

Ten players earned special awards. One, Mike Lauber, was unable to attend because he is in Akron Children's Hospital recovering from surgery for a cyst on his ankle. He was expected to return home either today or Thursday.

**THE AWARDS** list was as follows: senior linebacker Tom Grizzard — Tackle Award, Best Defensive Lineman and Captain's Award; senior wingback, defensive end Keith Harmon — "M" Award for most key plays both offensively and defensively; senior tailback Bill Harmon — Best Offensive Back, Captain's Award;

Senior tight end-defensive tackle Mark Matie — Captain's Award; senior offensive tackle Mike Lauber — Block Award, Tiger Sideline Citizen Athlete Award; senior center Dan Nagle — Carl (Ducky)

Schroeder Award for Best Offensive Lineman; senior guard Todd Schumacher — Captain's Award; junior linebacker Anthony Grizzard — WTIG Most Improved Player Award.

Superintendent of Schools L. C. Young and WHS Principal Clifford Wilson spoke.

Said Young, "We can really do it in '76," and thanked many people in the schools and community for their support of the football program.

Said Wilson, "I believe we will have as many boys eligible to go to college as we have had in many years here," and thanked the community for its support.

**CHEERLEADER ADVISOR** Jeannie Warner praised her crew, saying, "These were two of the best squads I've ever had the pleasure of working with." She mentioned the high academic average of her pep gals.

Tiger head coach Chuck Shuff also expressed his thanks to people, ranging from the school administration to cameramen. Then he admonished the crowd, "We must get our financial situation in the schools back on its feet. We can't run the type of

program we're running without seventh grade football."

In discussing the season past he said a 6-3-1 record was not what was designed and fell short of what was expected by most football people, but the season was an exciting one. He lauded the Tigers' defensive team and its kicking game, led by Keith Harmon.

"It's a real pleasure to have spent two years with our seniors," Shuff said. "I challenge them to continue doing their best. Never leave a situation where you can't be proud of what you've done."

He reminded the juniors and sophomores that they should know what it will take to be successful in 1976. He hoped they gained experience from watching the seniors fight back from adversity.

"**WE WILL** be green, but I see a fine program shaping up," Shuff said. "We have already had boys working out on their own. I hope next year's juniors will push next year's seniors into becoming great seniors. Together we (parents, players and coaches) will meet the challenge of '76."

Among other special awards presented were trophies to Bill Harmon and Tom Grizzard for

being named to United Press International's first-team All-Ohio; a presentation to retiring Tiger Booster Club President Earl O'Leary and a plaque to this reporter.

O'Leary introduced the 1976 booster president, John Muhlbach Jr., and then the senior players and managers presented roses to their mothers. The Rev. Kim Hauenstein, associate pastor of Wesley United Methodist Church, a former Tiger griddier, gave the invocation and benediction.

### LETTERMEN

Third year: seniors—Bill Harmon, Mark Matie and Todd Keller.

Second year: seniors—Bill Bammerlin, Carl Christoff, Harold Dorsey, Steve Easter, Edward Genet, Tom Grizzard, Keith Harmon, Jeff Lab, Mike Lauber, Dan Nagle, Alan Roger, Todd Schumacher.

First year: seniors—Glen Arner, Mike Bettilyon, Tom Brand, Robert Butterfield, Dav Byelene, Willie Conley, Sylveste Drobney, Chuck Eberhardt, Tod Ellis, Enzo Fatigati, Greg Michael, Gary King, Mike Ricker, Greg Shilling, David Smith, Dennis Simpson, Donald Stewart, Juniors—Gary Border, Ric Chovan, Anthony Grizzard, John Hauser, Jay Harper, Van Jones, Pete Killians, Randy Lash, Mar Lauber, John Parson, Mike Ramsey, Jesse Toles, Tim Tourney, David Warthen.

### MANAGERS

Senior lettermen—Alonz Heath, Keith Rudy, David Watkins.

## SIDELINERS



# HISTORY

1975



**AWARD WINNERS** — These members of the 1975 Massillon Tiger football team received honors at the annual Tiger football banquet, held Tuesday in the Washington High School cafeteria. From left, **SEATED:** Bill Harmon, Harold Dorsey, Dan Nagle and Keith Harmon. **STANDING:** Mark Matie, Todd

Schumacher, Steve Easter, Tom Grizzard and Anthony Grizzard. Anthony is a junior and the others are all seniors. Mike Lauber was absent due to ankle surgery.

(Independent Staff Photo)

SIDELINERS



# Football 'fun again' in Tigertown

HISTORY  
1976

*Henderson, Traylor,  
Tournay, Lash lauded*

By CHUCK HESS JR.  
Independent Sports Editor

"It's fun again!"

The words on a sign on a Venetian blind in back of the dias at the 1976 Tiger Football Banquet held Wednesday night in the Washington High School cafeteria referred to the Obiemen's 1976 resurgence under first-year head coach Mike Currence.

He turned the Massillon football program around from one of unhappiness to a start on the road back to greatness with an 8-2 record, including eight straight wins.

THERE WAS plenty of fun at the banquet as jibes were poked at everyone from Superintendent of Schools L. C. Young to coaches, players, writers and a broadcaster.

There were also more mementoes given out than in

quite some time.

Four major awards were presented: WTIG Most Improved Defensive Player to senior Halfback Bill Henderson; WTIG Most Improved Offensive Player to senior quarterback Bret Traylor; Tiger Sideline Citizen Athlete Award to senior defensive halfback Randy Lash and Carl "Ducky" Schroeder Award for Most Efficient Offensive Interior Lineman to senior tackle Tim Tournay.

Wilbur Arnold, banquet emcee and vice president of the Massillon Board of Education, lauded Currence as the "Man who made it all fun again."

Karen Hofacre, representing the Washington High School Pep Club in

presenting the first scrapbooks to Tiger seniors, lauded Currence and the team as the ones who "quickly brought back the pride which was hidden for so long."

YOUNG SAID, "We found a winner in Mike Currence. His team gave us many moments we'll never forget." Young thanked the team and coaches for their efforts and the parents and community for their support.

"We should be looking forward to the state championship in 1977 and start to plan now," Young concluded.

Principal Clifford R. Wilson praised the team and Currence for the stature

they took at the beginning of the year, with few lettermen back, but going on to eight straight games.

"We continue to have a program we can take pride in," he said.

In introducing John Muhlbach Jr., retiring Tiger Booster Club president, Arnold said, "Never has a booster president worked so hard and so long for the coach, the community and the team," causing the 550 persons in attendance to give Muhlbach, a former Tiger center and co-captain, one of several standing ovations in evidence throughout the night.

OTHERS WERE given Lash and Currence. Muhlbach presented the

**SIDELINERS**

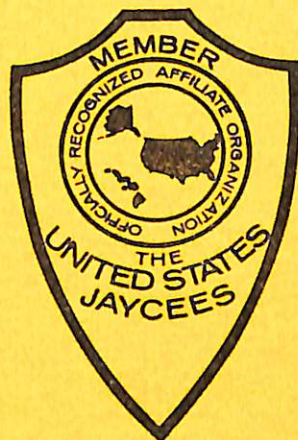
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SIDELINERS

1976

MASSILLON JAYCEES  
TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL  
**SPORTSMANSHIP  
AWARDS BANQUET**



WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1976

7:00 p.m.

*Guest Speaker*

BOB COMMINGS  
HEAD COACH  
University of Iowa



WELCOME TO THE  
24th Annual  
SPORTSMANSHIP  
AWARDS BANQUET



*We, of the Massillon Jaycees feel honored and privileged for being able to represent our community in showing recognition to football players who possess outstanding sportsmanship qualities.*



SIDELINERS

1976





# Jaycee fete

SIDELINER-  
JAYCEES  
1976

Former Washington High School head football coach Bob Commings will return to Tigertown Dec. 8 to help the Massillon Jaycees honor 11 outstanding football players.

Commings, now head coach at the University of Iowa, will be the main speaker at the Jaycees' Sportsmanship Award Banquet to be held at the new Knights of Columbus Hall on Cherry rd NW.

**THE JAYCEES** will honor one opponent from each of this year's Washington High School team's opponents and one member of the Tigers. He will receive the Bob Smith Memorial Award, named after the late master of ceremonies who died of a heart attack while emceeing the 1962 banquet held at the Amherst Park Civic Center.

John Muhlback Jr., this year's Tiger Booster Club president, will be the master of ceremonies.

Tickets for the strip steak dinner are \$7 each and will be available starting next Monday at Tom Straughn's Fashion World or any member of the Jaycees.

Philip Elum and Duke Niezgoda are dinner co-chairmen.

Commings came to Massillon in 1969 after seven years at the Youngstown suburb of Struthers where he had fashioned a 50-16-4 record. He left here in 1973 for his alma mater, Iowa, after posting 43-6-2 record.



**BOB COMMINGS**

**HIS SLATE** included a 10-0 season in 1970 and the Ohio State Championship as picked by writers and broadcasters of the Associated Press. He guided the Tigers to another 10-0 regular season record in 1972, only to see them lose 17-14 to Cincinnati Princeton in the first Class AAA playoff game played in Ohio.

In 1973 the Tigers went 8-1-1 and were edged out of the playoffs by Youngstown Cardinal Mooney by less than two points.

Commings' winning percentage here was .877. Only Paul Brown (1932-40) .909 and Chuck Mather (1948-1953) .950 had higher percentages among coaches who were here five or more years.



# Grizzard wins Smith Memorial Award

*275 honor Tiger foes at*

*sportsmanship banquet*

1976

By **CHUCK HESS JR.**  
Independent Sports Editor  
Anthony Grizzard, Washington High School senior monster back and kick return specialist, received the Bob Smith Memorial Award Wednesday night at the Massillon Jaycees' 24th annual Sportsmanship Award Banquet.

Some 275 people watched as Bill Snyder presented the

rotating trophy and a special plaque to Grizzard. Snyder was a longtime friend of Smith, who suffered a fatal heart attack while serving as emcee of the 1962 banquet.

**ALSO ON HAND** were members of eight of the 10

teams which played the Washington High School team in 1976. Only Todd Bell, senior linebacker from Middletown, and Dean Rogers, junior linebacker from Gahanna Lincoln, could not make it. The Gahanna Lincoln football banquet was held

Wednesday night.

Guest speaker was Bob Commings, University of Iowa head football coach. Commings, Washington High skipper from 1969 to 1973, presented his criteria for the successful young man.

A special plaque was



**ANTHONY GRIZZARD**, Washington High School senior monster back and kick return specialist, receives the Bob Smith Memorial Award. From left are Bob Commings, University of Iowa head football coach, former Tiger

skipper and guest speaker; Mike Currence, current Massillon chief zard; Bill Snyder; and John Helline, president of the Massillon Ja (Independent Staff

**CONTINUED NEXT PAGE**



1976

presented to Chuck Pulsa, Cleveland Benedictine assistant football coach, on behalf of the Tiger Booster Club. Club President John Muhlbach Jr., who served as emcee of the banquet, presented the plaque.

Pulsa accepted the plaque on behalf of Augie Bossu,

Benedictine coach, who could not be at the banquet because his mother is ill.

Tiger foes who received Sportsmanship Awards from Massillon coach Mike Currence were Rick Holman, Cleveland East senior quarterback and safety; Sam Giangardella, Niles McKinley senior

linebacker; Rick Saunders, Benedictine senior linebacker; Dave Medich, Steubenville senior tackle and linebacker; Bill Rackley, Barberton senior safety; Maurice Hall, Warren Harding junior quarterback; Steve Clunk, Alliance senior two-way end; and Ray Ellis, Canton

McKinley senior wingback and defensive back.

COACHES of opposing teams and parents of opposing team members were introduced by Currence, who saluted the team members as being members of the best teams he ever coached against.

Also introduced were Tiger assistant coaches and senior players as well as

(See CRIZZARD 2 ...)





**HARDNOSE AWARD** winner of the Tiger Touchdown Club is Gene Boerner, left, club president, presents the award. John Anthony Grizzard, Washington High School monsterback. Muhlbach Jr., 1976 Booster Club president, looks on.

# Anthony Grizzard wins 1976 Hardnose Award

By **CHUCK HESS JR.**  
Independent Sports Editor  
Anthony Grizzard scored a first in Tiger Touchdown Club history Monday noon when he received the organization's 1976 Hardnose Award. His brother, Tom, won the prize last year.

No brother combination had ever won the award before.

**GRIZZARD** was the Tigers' monster back or roving defensive halfback this season, having been transferred there from the linebacking spot he held in 1975. Head coach Mike Currence feels Grizzard is All-Ohio material.

"It was a hard decision," Gene Boerner, TD Club president said, in presenting the award. "There were 21

different players voted for in our weekly elections, but Grizzard is the real hardnose."

Grizzard received the award at the Massillon Club Monday noon during the TD Club's final luncheon of the season. His junior and senior teammates and head coach Mike Currence were on hand to watch.

"We want to tell the Tigers how proud we are of all of you," Boerner said. "All Massillon is proud of you. You proved the so-called experts wrong in their preseason predictions. After the losses in the first two games, I thought maybe they were right."

Boerner reported the Tigers' 8-2 record, with eight successive wins, puts them in select company with the 1973 team which was 8-1-1,

with two four-game winning streaks, and the 1972 team which had a 10-game winning streak.

**IT TOOK** an undefeated team to knock us out of the playoffs," Boerner reminded.

In introducing Currence, Boerner reported on a statement of former Tiger aide Carl "Ducky" Schroeder who said that great coaches leading some fine players are what has made Massillon great.

"We have a great coach and here he is," said Boerner.

Currence introduced the players and announced that the annual football banquet will tentatively be held Dec. 15 at the high school cafeteria.

**BOERNER** introduced John Muhlbach Jr., the 1977 president, and John asked for and got a hand for Boerner.

Muhlbach said to the team, "You have made everybody proud to be a Tiger."

Boerner concluded the meeting with, "The Tiger is alive and healthy, resides in Massillon and will give them heck next year."

HISTORY  
1976



# HISTORY 1976

Schroeder Award; retiring Tiger Sideliner President Pete Spuhler, the Citizen Athlete Award, and Bill Caples, WTIG sports director and a member of the Massillon Board of Education, the Most Improved Offensive and Defensive Player Awards (first time for two).

All senior players received individual pictures. Other awards included All-American Conference Championship trophies and letters or numerals. Assistant coaches, trainer Mike Internicola, equipment manager Jim Parris and Muhlbach received plaques.

Muhlbach presented plaques to Wayne Spees, booster club secretary, and Maurie Basler, club

treasurer, and introduced the following new officers and a chairman for 1977: Dennis Gibson, booster president; Pete Spuhler, booster vice president; "Pokey" Converse, Sideliner president, and Walt Bronczek, WTIG football color announcer, Sideliner program chairman.

Claudette Istnick, cheerleader advisor, introduced the yell gals and thanked them for their patience during her first year.

**FLOWERS WERE** presented to senior mothers.

The Rev. Wayne E. Yeager, rector of St.

Timothy's Episcopal Church, gave the invocation and benedictine.

The 1977 schedule was printed in the program as follows: Sept. 10 — Barberton Akron Rubber Bowl; 16 — Gahanna Lincoln; 23 — open; 30 — Niles McKinley. Oct. 7 — Cleveland Benedictine; 14 — at Steubenville; 21 — Columbus Eastmoor; 28 — Warren Harding. Nov. 4 — Alliance; 12 — at Canton McKinley.

Color movies of Tony Mattie's fumble recovery in the McKinley game and subsequent touchdown by Mike Groves were shown as were color slides of "Paul Brown Day" and Obie VII.



**HONORED TIGERS** — From left, Randy Lash, Tiger Sideliner Citizen Athlete Award; Tim Tournay, Carl "Ducky" Schroeder Most Efficient Interior Offensive Lineman Award; Bret Traylor, WTIG Most Improved Offensive Player Award, and Bill Henderson, WTIG Most

Improved Defensive Player Award, were lauded at Wednesday night's annual Tiger Football Banquet. The affair was held in the Washington High School cafeteria. (Independent Staff Photo)

## **SIDELINERS**

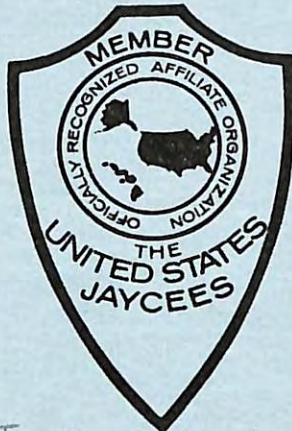


SIDELINERS

1977

**MASSILLON JAYCEES  
TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL  
SPORTSMANSHIP  
AWARDS BANQUET**

*IN MEMORY OF*



*J.W. "BILL" SNYDER  
1904 - 1978*

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1977**

**7:00 p.m.**

*Guest Speaker*

**EARLE BRUCE  
HEAD COACH  
Iowa State University**

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**MASSILLON JAYCEES  
25th Annual  
SPORTSMANSHIP AWARDS BANQUET**

**Thursday, December 8, 1977**

**Massillon K. of C. Hall**

*Speaker - Earle Bruce*

**Head Coach Iowa State University**

**Dinner 7:00 p.m.**

**COMPLIMENTARY**

029 N



# Bruce named speaker for Sportsmanship fete

Former Massillon head football coach Earle Bruce will be the guest speaker at the Massillon Jaycees 25th annual Sportsmanship Awards banquet to be held Dec. 8 at the K. of C. hall.



EARLE BRUCE

Bruce coached his Iowa State team to the Big 8 Conference co-championship last season. He guided the Tigers to 20 straight victories and two state championships during his stay here in 1964-65.

He coached at Ohio State University and the University of Tampa before becoming head coach at Iowa State. John Muhlback, who will be master of ceremonies at the banquet, played under Bruce at Washington High and Ohio State.

The Sportsmanship Awards banquet is held to honor one player and the head coach from each of the teams on the Tigers' schedule. The player is selected on the basis of his performance against Massillon.

Barberton fullback Larry Ricks was named Sportsmanship Award winner for his performance in the Magics' 9-7 win over the Tigers last Saturday night in the Akron Rubber Bowl.

Ricks gained 94 yards in 22 carries.

Also at the banquet, the Bob Smith Memorial Award is presented to one Massillon player for his outstanding play and sportsmanship during the year. Last year's recipient was Anthony Grizzard.

Tickets for the banquet will go on sale soon and can be purchased from any Jaycee member at Tom Straughn's Men's Shop and at Koonie's Place. Chairman of this year's event is Phillip Elum.



1977

# BALDWIN - WALLACE COLLEGE



*Yellow Jackets*



Phone: (216) 826-2184

Lee J. Tressel, Director of Athletics

130 E. Bagley Road  
Berea, Ohio 44017

December 5, 1977

Phillip Elum  
Suite 210  
11 Lincoln Way West  
Massillon, Ohio 44646

Dear Phil,

Thank you very much for the invitation to the annual Jaycees Sports Awards Banquet. I am sorry I will be tied up on that date but do appreciate the invitation. I think this is always one of the nicest banquets around and would really like to attend.

I will miss seeing my good friend Earl Bruce. I was pleased to see Earl had such a good season.

Thanks again for the invitation. Also congratulations to the Tigers on the big Bulldog victory.

Sincerely,

*Lee Tressel*  
Lee Tressel  
Head Football Coach

LT:nt



1977

IOWA STATE  
UNIVERSITY

Department of  
Intercollegiate Athletics

Ames, Iowa 50010

August 26, 1977

Phillip Elum  
Chairman  
Suite 210  
11 Lincoln Way W.  
Massillon, OH 44646

Dear Phillip:

Thank you for your recent letter inviting me to speak at the Massillon Jaycees' twenty-fifth annual Sportsmanship Awards Banquet. I will be happy to accept your invitation to speak preferably either Wednesday, December 7th or Thursday, December 8th.

Please let me know what you would like for me to speak on and the definite arrangements and I will give you my flight schedule.

Thank you again for asking me. Massillon means a lot to me. I'll be looking forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,



EARLE BRUCE  
Head Football Coach

EB:pa







WINNING AWARDS at the Tiger football banquet Thursday night at Washington High School were, from left: Mike Hickey, Most Improved defensive player; Bob Berquist, Ducky Schroeder Offensive Lineman Award; and Toby

Leonard, Most Improved offensive player. Absent was Frank Sweterlitsch who was named recipient of the Citizenship Award. (Independent Staff Photo)



PETE SPUHLER

## Spuhler new Booster Club president

# Tiger grididders honored

By ROLAND A. DREUSSI  
Independent Sports Editor

A full-house-turned-out Thursday night to honor an 8-2 Massillon Tiger football team that came so close to being 10-0 (or maybe 12-0) at the team banquet at Washington High School.

But the greatest highlight of the season, a 21-0 thrashing of Canton McKinley, was not lost among Tiger faithful. Nor was it forgotten.

Before the meal, color film of the victory over McKinley was shown to the crowd while background music of "We're Gonna Rock You" and "We Are The Champions Of The World" filled the room.

Tiger head coach Mike Currence was responsible for the film and music and it was a fitting tribute to the season the Tigers had. It

honored all members of the team and helped emphasize that it was a team effort that brought the Tigers their greatest victory of the season.

Currence told that group that the games the Tigers lost were upsets, and he credited his team for being able to come back and play so well after each loss.

"The last two games of the season we tried to show everybody how good we were," Currence said. "And we won those two games by a total score of 65-0. We completely dominated that team to the east of us (McKinley) which finished second in the state. So we know we have to be at least number two, and if you saw the title game, then you know we are the best," Currence said referring

to the McKinley Moeller game, won 14-2 by the Cincinnati team.

Three points separated the Tigers from a perfect season and the playoffs to a 9-7 loss to Barberton and a 22-21 loss to Warren Harding), but the Tigers did share the All-American Conference crown (they won it outright last season) and received the Greater Akron Championship Trophy from Akron radio station WHLO.

The Tiger coaching staff presented awards to all the players and Currence noted that: "We're going to miss the seniors."

His words were echoed by his assistant, Nick Vrotsos, who said: "This is one of the most outstanding group of seniors we've had in a long time."

Lou Young, superintendent of Massillon schools, pronounced his faith in Currence as a winning coach. "He's going to bring us a state title, there's no doubt in my mind," Young said.

Four Tigers received awards at the fete.

Bob Berquist received the Ducky Schroeder Award as the top offensive lineman. The award, sponsored by the Booster Club, is determined by the best average film grade for all 10 games. In addition to a trophy, Berquist received a \$400 scholarship.

Frank Sweterlitsch, who was unable to attend the banquet, received the Citizenship Award presented by the Sideliners.

The Most Improved Player awards went to Mike Hickey on defense and Toby

Leonard on offense. The awards are given by WTIG radio.

Outgoing Booster Club president Dennis Gibson introduced Pete Spuhler to the audience as the new president.

The open dates for the 1978 football schedule have been filled. Cleveland-Glenville will be the opponent for the third game and Jackson High School will be the opponent for the seventh game. The season will open Sept. 8 when Perry travels to Tiger Stadium. They will be followed by Alliance (away), Glenville-Niles (away), Benedictine, Steubenville, Jackson, Harding (away), Timken (away) and McKinley.

And now it's 41 days down and 260 more to go. Beat Perry!

SIDELINERS



# Beating McKinley

## James' biggest thrill

THE MASSILLON EVENING INDEPENDENT

*Coaching career was 'automatic'*



MASSILLON NATIVE Don James (center), head coach at the University of Washington, is shown after his speech at Monday's Sportsmanship Awards Banquet with Massillon football players Curtis Strawder (left), winner of the Bob Smith-Bill Snyder Memorial Award, and Jeff David, winner of the Citizen Athlete Award. (Independent Staff Photo)

1978



By KEN ZUERCHER

Don James, the 1977 national coach of the year, has won a Rose Bowl, a Pac-8 championship, guided Kent State to its only Mid-American Conference title and set five passing records at Miami of Florida.

So what ranks among his biggest thrills in football?

Beating McKinley.

James, the quarterback on Massillon's state championship team of 1949, led the Tigers to a 6-0 victory over the Bulldogs in Fawcett Stadium that year.

"That's the most memorable moment for me as a player," James said during a press conference Monday before speaking at the Massillon Jaycees-Tiger Sideliners Sportsmanship Awards Banquet at the Massillon Moose 481 Lodge.

"People who aren't involved in the Massillon-McKinley rivalry have no idea of the build-up that week," James said. "Washington and Washington State is a great rivalry, but it still doesn't have the same feeling."

Carl "Ducky" Schroeder, the long-time Tiger assistant coach who introduced his former pupil at the banquet, recalled that James shocked the Bulldogs with the first audible or "automatic" he had seen called in a high school game.

With the score tied at 0-0

and the Tigers bottled up on their own three yard line, James saw eleven McKinley defenders crowd the line of scrimmage. He changed the play to a pass that gained 20 yards and gave Massillon the field position that eventually resulted in Ace Crable's winning touchdown.

James remembers that play, too.

"Chuck Mather (the Tiger coach) was so shocked when I called a pass from the three he almost had a heart attack," the University of Washington coach said with a laugh.

James has made enough good calls since to rebuild football programs in his only two head coaching jobs. At Kent State, he led the Flashes to their best record ever (9-2 in 1973) and their first MAC championship in 1972. In 1975 he headed west and coached Washington to wins over USC and UCLA, the only team to accomplish that feat during that season.

After a 1-3 start in 1977, the Huskies reeled off eight straight victories, including the big one over Michigan in Pasadena.

James admitted that his Huskies' 7-4 mark this season was a disappointment, but featured highlights like wins over bowl-bound teams Stanford and Arizona State and a victory over rival Washington State in the season finale.

James has never had a player from Ohio on his Washington squad, which is made up almost exclusively of residents from the Northwest and California (12 Californians started in the Rose Bowl).

But that didn't keep the ex-Tiger from looking around his hometown. James viewed film's of this year's edition of the Massillon-McKinley game and talked to Massillon's All-Ohio quarterback Brent Offenbecher.

"Going to Washington isn't like driving across the street," James said. "Brent and I went over the distance involved and the quarterbacks we have (starter Tom Porres will return), then I tried to sell him on the Pac-10 program."

If James had his druthers, the Pac-10 would still be the Pac-8 because this year's expansion added two more recruiting rivals. On the field, however, James considers newcomers Arizona and Arizona State "competitive teams and good additions."

James is optimistic about the Huskies' chances next year, especially since a ruling that allows freshmen to be red-shirted was made retroactive. That provides James with four offensive linemen he thought he would lose.

Returning to the backfield along with Porres will be

fullback Toissant Tyler and tailback Joe Steele, who rushed for a school record 1,111 yards this season and is likely to break the Washington career mark held by Hugh McElhenney of NFL fame.

At a Hall of Fame Club luncheon earlier Monday, James said he opposed two college rules changes instituted this season — bringing the ball back to the line of scrimmage after a missed field goal and allowing a receiver to re-enter the field to catch a pass if he has been jammed out of bounds.

James listed some changes he would like to see, however, most notably the elimination of 15-yard penalties for holding, clipping and inadvertent face mask violations.

Five yards should be the maximum, he indicated.

On the other hand, he would like to see harsher penalties for "violent" offenses, including ejection from the game for slugging or spearing.

Is a third head coaching spot in James' future?

"Everybody says I'm going to Kansas, Colorado and Florida," James said. "I don't apply for any jobs. I talk, and I listen."

James also said that USC, Michigan's opponent in the Rose Bowl this year, is the best team he has seen this season.



# James' success story started here at WHS

**MASSILLON JAYCEES  
and  
TIGER SIDELINERS**  
26th Annual  
**SPORTSMANSHIP AWARDS BANQUET**

Monday, December 4, 1978  
Massillon Moose Lodge # 481  
2935 Lincoln Way West

**Speaker - Don James**

HEAD COACH UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON  
DINNER 7:00 P.M.  
PRICE \$10.00



**WASHINGTON COACH  
DON JAMES**

Don James' greatest success probably came last year when he led the Washington Huskies to a 9-3 record, the Pacific-8 Championship and a victory over Michigan in the Rose Bowl.

But the 1977 National Coach of the Year, who the featured speaker at this year's 26th Annual SportsmanSHIP Awards Banquet Monday, Dec 4, began the success story right here in Massillon.

Before going on to coaching plateaus at Kent State University and then the University of Washington, James was a grid star himself for Washington High School.

James played on Massillon's state championship teams in 1948 and '49, and was the starting quarterback in '49.

His football success continued at Miami of Florida, where he set five school passing records for the Hurricanes in 1952 and '53. He graduated with several academic and athletic awards including the school's award for top scholar-athlete.

After a two-year stint in the Army, James turned to coaching freshman football while earning his Masters degree at the University of Kansas.

He was head coach at

Southwest High School in Miami for two years before moving into an assistant coaching position at Florida State which he held for seven years. Assistant coaching positions followed with the Universities of Michigan and Colorado before James took the head coaching position at Kent State in 1971.

At Kent, James took the Flashes to their first Mid-American Conference Championship ever and their best record ever, 9-2.

The rebuilding job at Kent was repeated at Washington, where James turned a perennial Pac-8 also-ran into a conference champion.

James will address the annual SportsmanSHIP Awards Banquet at the Massillon Moose Lodge (481), 2935 Lincolnway West following a 6:30 cocktail hour and a 7 p.m. dinner.

The banquet, sponsored by the Massillon Jaycees and the Tiger Sideliners, will also honor one player from each of the teams on Massillon's 1978 schedule. Massillon awards will include the Bob Smith Memorial Award presented by the Jaycees and the Citizen-Athlete Award given by the Sideliners.

Those opposing players to be honored and their schools are:

Steve Fink, Perry; Oliver Scott, Alliance; Less Browne, East Liverpool; Dave Negro, Niles; Scott Modzelewski, Cleveland Benedictine; Bernard Stevenson, Steubenville; Craig Stallman, Jackson; Tony Seawood, Warren; Rick McDonald, Timken; and Tony Floyd, Mickinley.

Although tickets will not be sold at the door, they can be purchased from the Amherst Sport Spot, Quick Print, Koonies, Massillon Moose, Studer Sporting Goods and Tom Straughn's Fashion World.

**SIDELINERS**

**1978**



# HISTORY - SIDELINERS

1978

THE PLAIN DEALER, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1978

## Award hails Snyder, too

Stark County bureau

MASSILLON - The most coveted award at the annual Massillon Jaycees Sportsmanship banquet is the Bob Smith Memorial Award, presented to a Massillon High football player for sportsmanship and football excellence.

Last night at the 26th edition of the fete, in Moose Lodge, a name was added to the Memorial trophy

- that of the late Bill Snyder, who died in October.

Snyder was one of Massillon High's most ardent rooters and rarely missed a game since the Paul Brown days. His joining Smith on the tribute is considered fitting. They were the closest of friends. Smith was president of the Massillon Booster Club in 1942 and Snyder in 1949.

Phil Elum was chairman of last night's dinner, attended by 300, and sponsored jointly by the Jaycees and the Massillon Sideliners this year.

Named for the first Smith-Snyder award was Tiger wide receiver Curt Stawder, hailed by Massillon football coach Mike Currence as one of the finest receptionists he ever coached.

A second award, presented by the Sideliners, was a citizenship-athlete salute to defensive back Jeff David.

The banquet also honored one player from each of the 10 teams on the Massillon 1978 schedule. They were presented plaques by Elum.





Left to right: Jamie Schlegel, Darryl Rogers, Mike Hodgson

# MSU's 'getting it together,' Rogers says at Tigers' fete

By PAT EATON

Repository Sports Writer

MASSILLON — There will always be the arguments as to who initiated the forward pass as part of a football team's offense.

But there seems to be no question that Darryl Rogers helped the Big 10 Conference realize a passing team could win football games.

Rogers, who was the guest speaker at the Massillon Sideliners-Jaycees Sportsmanship Awards Banquet Wednesday night, admits that he knew about as little about the Big 10 as the Big 10 knew about passing when he took over as head coach at Michigan State University four years ago.

"The first time I ever saw a Big 10 game was when I walked into the big horseshoe at Ohio State, Rogers recalled, saying most of what he saw was Ohio State running over the goal line with the ball.

"We were behind 28-0 after a quarter and there we were, a major college coaching staff, saying, 'Do you know how many points they can score,'" he said.

Rogers' team lost the game 35-21, not too bad, and bounced back last year to tie with Michigan for the Big 10 championship while setting a Big 10 record for offensive yardage; but he still had the frustration of sitting at home during the "bowling season."

The California-raised coach took over at MSU in the first year of a three-year probation slapped on the Spartans by the NCAA. The probation ended last year, but the hopes for a bowl game for the Spartans ended early this year when his team's first two quarterbacks were crumbled by injuries.

Bert Vaughn from Mogadore and his replacement were injured early as the Spartans fell out of the Big 10 race with two quick conference losses.

"I don't think much about the past," Rogers said when asked if he was upset by the past season.

"Anytime you lose your trigger man it puts so much of a burden on the offense and the defense," Rogers pointed out. "We did have probably the best kicking game in the nation," he said on a more optimistic note, a tone he kept the rest of the night. "I can only say that we're getting it together.

"We're getting tremendous changes in the defenses as a conference," Rogers said when asked if he felt responsible for the footballs in the air in the Big 10 this fall.

"The Big 10 is catching up, there is a great deal more balance in the offenses. I'm from the West Coast and every team I've ever played on passed a lot. I guess I get it from Sid Gillman — somebody else had to start it though," he said with a grin.

Two of the elite of Massillon's 10-1 team for 1979 were honored at the banquet.

Defensive tackle Mike Hodgson was presented with the prestigious Bob Smith-J.W. "Bill" Snyder Memorial Award. Defensive safety Jamie Schlegel was the recipient of the Sideliner Citizen Athlete Award.

The banquet also honored Sportsmanship Award winners from each of the 11 schools the Tigers' played this year.

Players lauded were: Doug Lab, Perry; Andre Jackson, Alliance; Dan Scully, Mentor; Gene Kuszmaul, Niles McKinley; Jerry Mismas, Cleveland Benedictine; Doug Dillon, Barberton; Paul Krivos, Jackson; Darren Morgan, Warren Harding; R. C. Smoot, Timken Senior; John Grimsley, McKinley Senior and Dan Schodowski, Parma Padua.



# HISTORY

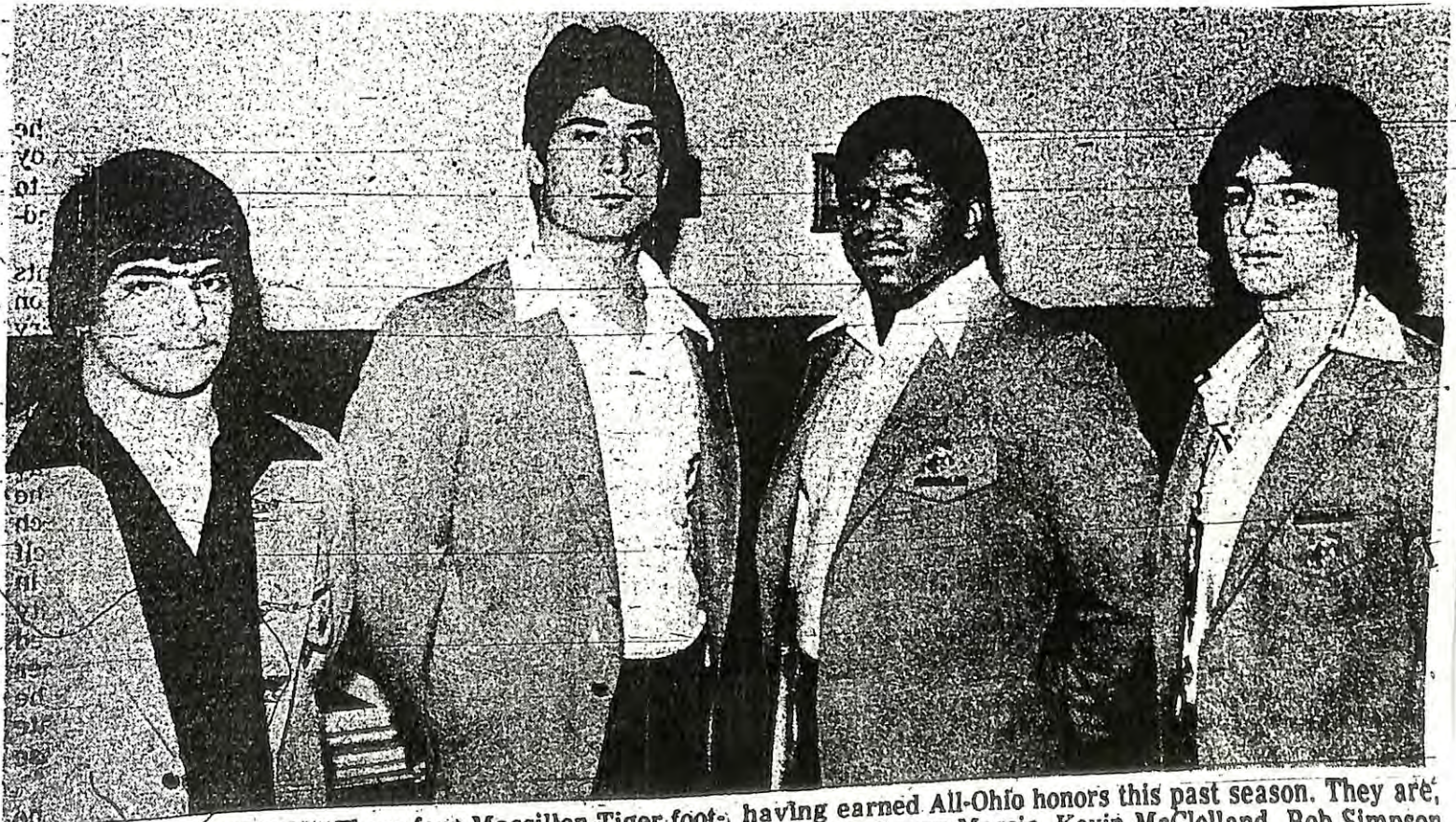
## SIDELINERS

1979



**TIGER AWARD WINNERS** — These Massillon football players, who received various awards at previous banquets, were honored Wednesday night at the Tigers' annual sports banquet. They are, from left: Jamie Schlegel, Tiger Sideliners Citizenship Award; Mike Hodgson, Jaycees

Sportsmanship Award; Bob Simpson, Most Valuable Player; and Tim Reese, Reese's Raiders Efficiency Award. Bill Burkett, not shown, recently received the Knights of Columbus Scholar-Athlete Award.  
(Photo by Rollie Dreussi)



**TIGER ALL-STATERS** — These four Massillon Tiger football players were honored at the team's annual sports banquet Wednesday night at the Knights of Columbus Hall for having earned All-Ohio honors this past season. They are, from left: Larry Massie, Kevin McClelland, Bob Simpson and Marty Guzzetta.





## 'Pound Padua'

**SURPRISED TIGERS** — Massillon Tiger football players were surprised with a rally Friday night during their Tiger Sideliners dinner at the American Legion hall. The players' parents, the Sideliners' wives and the Tiger Swing Band and cheerleaders paraded through the hall at the end of the dinner with "Pound Padua" signs and "Go Tigers" signs. Massillon will play Padua at 7:30 tonight in the Akron Rubber Bowl in a Class AAA state computer playoff semifinal game.

(More photos and story on Page 11)

(Photo by Jack Worthington)

SIDELINERS  
1979



## Hodgson Tiger 'Sportsman' 1979

Stark County bureau

**MASSILLON** — Mike Hodgson, the Massillon High Tigers' 6-6 defensive end, was named "Sportsman of the Year" at the 27th annual Sportsmanship Awards Banquet at Moose Lodge last night.

Hodgson, a 200-pound senior, was one of the most improved players on the Tiger team that finished 10-0 during the regular season but lost to Parma Padua, 12-0, in the state AAA semi-finals.

Players from the 11 opponents played by Massillon were honored by the sponsoring Massillon Jaycees and Tiger Sideliners with sportsmanship awards. They were: Doug Lab, Perry; Andre Jackson, Alliance; Dan Scully, Mentor; Gene Kuszmaul, Niles; Jerry Mismas, Cleveland Benedictine; Doug Dillon, Barberton; Paul Krives, Jackson; Darren Morgan, Warren Harding; E. C. Smoot, Timken; John Grimsley, Canton McKinley, and Dan Schdowski, Parma Padua.

Darryl Rogers, football coach at Michigan State University, was speaker.



# Tressel, Tiger foes honored at banquet

*'Don't worry about me, just cheer for me'*

BY KEN ZUERCHER  
Independent Staff Writer

Lee Tressel, the recently-retired Baldwin-Wallace College football coach, had intended to give something Wednesday night in Massillon — a speech at the 28th annual Massillon Jaycees-Tiger Sideliner Sportsmanship Awards Banquet.

Instead, the former Tiger coach was in Berea and on the receiving end of a special award, along with words of encouragement and praise.

Tressel, who launched the Sideliner organization during his tenure as Massillon's coach in 1956-57, is battling cancer.

His son Jim, whose appointment as an assistant coach at Syracuse University was announced at the banquet at the Massillon Moose Lodge, accepted the award for his father.

"Don't worry about me, just cheer for me," was the message the younger Tressel brought from the B-W athletic director, whose 23-year college coaching career included a 154-53-6 record, an NCAA Division III national championship and a national coach of the year award.

And there were many cheers for Tressel Wednesday night.

"We are very proud to be a part of Lee Tressel's history, and proud that he's been part of ours," Dr. Robert Immel, who was Booster Club president when Tressel coached here in 1956, said in making the special presentation.

"To the rest of the state he will probably always be a Yellow Jacket from Berea, but in Massillon he will always be a Tiger," Immel added.

"I know my father has a lot of super memories of Massillon," Jim Tressel replied. "If he could be here he would give his best to all of you."

New B-W head coach Bob Packard, who was Tressel's offensive coordinator, took over as the main speaker and outlined for the Tiger opponents on hand to receive awards what it takes to be a champion. One of the ingredients is facing up to a challenge.

"I have a great challenge coming up at Baldwin-Wallace, replacing a great coach and a great person like Lee Tressel," Packard said.

In addition to the players honored for their performances against Massillon, three members of

Massillon's state runnerup team received awards.

Bob James was announced as the winner of the Bob Smith-Bill Snyder Memorial Award, the sportsmanship award that goes to a Massillon player.

The Citizen-Athlete Award went to Mike Spicer and a new award for team spirit, the Tiger Roar of the Year, went to Doug Eberhart.

Tiger coach Mike Currence noted that 12 of the 13 players from opposing teams to be honored attended the dinner.

"That shows you the kind of class people we play," Currence said. "It's a great idea to bring back our opponents and congratulate them on what they did against us."

The Tiger coach not only described why the players were what he called "the thorns in our side," he provided evidence in the form of filmed highlights of their exploits.

"I picked out their best plays. It took me eight hours to clip them out, but it was worth it to get rid of them. Now my films are in great shape," he joked.

The only opponent who wasn't there was the one who had the greatest distance to travel — Cincinnati Moeller's Mark Brooks, who probably covered enough ground in the state championship game to satisfy Tiger fans anyway.

Awards were presented to Monte Wise of Perry, Dale Nelson of Cleveland John F. Kennedy, Bill Deitman of Mentor, Wallace Karim of Akron Garfield, Stan O'Day of Warren Harding, Scott Ivy of Youngstown South, John Jones of Barberton, Mitch Hulvalchick of Niles McKinley, Rick Miller of Parma Padua, Robert Nau for the first Canton McKinley game, Mike Daniels for the playoff contest against McKinley, and Dan Smierciak of Willoughby South.

"What Massillon fans enjoy seeing the most is a good football game," Currence said. "This year they saw an awful lot of good games and good players, and a lot of them are here tonight."

Mike Hershberger, the former major league baseball player who when the Massillon Sportsmanship Award in 1956 when he played halfback for Tressel, served as master of ceremonies at the event.

SIDELINERS  
DEC. 11, 1980





**TIGER SIDELINER** officers for 1980 are, from left, Gary Wilson, president, Gary Fair, secretary-treasurer, Ed Annem, publicity chairman, and John Caplin, program chairman.



**JIM TRESSEL**, second from right, accepted a special award on behalf of his father, former Massillon and Baldwin-Wallace coach Lee Tressel, at the Sportsmanship Awards Banquet Wednesday night. Also pictured are, from left, Gary Wilson, Sideliners president;

Tiger coach Mike Currence; Baldwin-Wallace coach Bob Packard, who was the main speaker; Mike Hershberger, master of ceremonies; and Carl "Ducky" Schroeder, who presented the Massillon Sportsmanship Award.

(Photo by Ken Zuercher)

12/10/1980





**TIGERS HONORED** — Special award winners at the Massillon Jaycees-Tiger Sideliners Sportsmanship Awards Banquet were, from left, Mike Spicer, Citizen-

Athlete Award; Bob James, Bob Smith-Bill Snyder Memorial Award; and Doug Eberhart, Tiger Roar of the Year Award.

(Photo by Ken Zuercher)

DEC. 10, 1980

**MASSILLON JAYCEES  
and  
TIGER SIDELINERS**

28th Annual  
**SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD BANQUET**

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1980  
Massillon Moose Lodge No. 481  
2935 Lincoln Way West

*Speaker - Lee Tressell*  
HEAD COACH BALDWIN-WALLACE

PRICE \$10.00                      DINNER 6:30 P.M.

QUICK TICKETS

Sportsmanship  
Awards  
Banquet

No. 398                      No. 398



# SIDELINERS

1981

## Sportsmanship banquet will be held on Dec. 7

MASSILLON — Brian Burke, head coach of Ohio University's Bobcats, will be the featured speaker at the 28th annual Massillon Jaycee-Sideliner Sportsmanship Awards Banquet to be held Dec. 7 at the Massillon Moose Lodge. The dinner will honor the outstanding athlete of each of the Massillon Tigers' 1981 opponents. Players representing 10 schools will be honored.



Burke

Burke, 46, compiled a 5-6 mark with the Bobcats in 1981 after posting 6-5 records his first two seasons in Athens. He is a native of Cleveland and is a 1958 graduate of Kent State University. He was head coach at East Cleveland Shaw from 1958 to 1960, followed by six seasons at Geneva and five seasons at Parma Senior before moving into the college ranks. He began his college career as an assistant at William and Mary in 1971 then moved to North Carolina State the next year as an assistant under Lou Holtz. In 1976, he joined Dick Bestwick's staff at Virginia before taking the OU job in 1979.

Sportsmanship award winners representing the Tigers' opponents include: Gino Millen of Perry, Leland Jones of Akron Buchtel, Tom Odom of Cincinnati Moeller, Willie Davis of Akron Garfield, Nick Frankos of Warren Harding, Melvin Johnson of Barberton, CLip Hilling of Akron St. Vincent-St. Mary, John Giangardella of Niles McKinley, Chris Elswick of Mansfield and Ross Rankin of Canton McKinley.

The Massillon award winner will be announced at the banquet.

No tickets will be available at the door. Tickets, which cost \$10, are available at the Washington High School Ticket Office until Dec. 4.

No 254

Sportsmanship  
Awards  
Banquet

QUICK TICKETS

### MASSILLON JAYCEES and TIGER SIDELINERS

29th Annual

*Sportsmanship Award Banquet*

MONDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1981

Massillon Moose Lodge No. 481  
2935 Lincoln Way West

*Speaker - Brian Burke*

HEAD COACH OHIO UNIVERSITY

PRICE \$10.00

DINNER 6:30 P.M.

No 254

No



Ten Tiger foes honored at

HISTORY

Jaycee-Sideliner banquet

1981

SIDELINERS

Heather, York top

Tiger sportsmen



**TIGER WINNERS** — Rick Heather and Chuck York were presented awards Monday night at the Massillon Jaycees-Massillon Sideliners 29th annual Sportsmanship Awards banquet. Heather won the Bob Smith-J.W. "Bill" Snyder Memorial Award and York the Lee Tressell Sideliner Citizen Athlete Award. From left, Brian Burke, head coach at Ohio University and the guest speaker, Heather York and Tiger coach Mike Currence.



# SIDELINERS

# 1982

No 071

Sportsmanship  
Awards  
Banquet

MASSILLON JAYCEES and  
TIGER SIDELINERS

30 th Annual

Sportsmanship Awards Banquet

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1982

Massillon Moose Lodge No. 481  
2935 Lincoln Way West

Speaker - Don Nehlen  
Head Coach University of W. Virginia

PRICE \$10.00

DINNER 6:30 P.M.

071

No

## WVU coach to speak at sportsmanship fete

By The Independent Staff

MASSILLON — Don Nehlen, West Virginia University head football coach, will be the speaker at the 30th annual Massillon Jaycee/Tiger Sideliner sportsmanship awards banquet Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at the Moose Lodge 481.

The dinner recognizes the outstanding athlete-sportsman from each team that played the Tigers this season. The winners will be announced at a later date, and Massillon's winner of the award will be announced at the banquet.

No tickets will be sold at the door. Reservations should be made by calling Mike Currence at 832-7807 or contacting a Massillon Jaycee or Tiger Sideliner. Tickets are also available at the Massillon Chamber of Commerce.

In two years, Nehlen has taken the West Virginia football program from four consecutive losing seasons to a victory in the Peach Bowl.

This year the Mountaineers (9-2) face Florida State (8-2) in the Gator Bowl Dec. 30.

Nehlen, 46, a former Canton South and Canton McKinley head coach, has put West Virginia on the map as a Top 20 team and has gained a reputation as one of the nation's premier coaches.

A former Bowling Green quarterback, Nehlen has been associated with only one losing season since his playing days in 1955.

His Canton South teams finished 24-11-2 in his four seasons and in his one year at McKinley the Bulldogs compiled



NEHLEN

a 9-1 record in 1964, losing only to Massillon and finishing second in the state to the Tigers.

After three years as an assistant, Nehlen became head coach at Bowling Green in 1968, guiding the Falcons to a 53-35-4 record. His 1975 team finished 8-3, Bowling Green's best record in a decade.

His overall record as a head coach is 68-44-4. Before going to West Virginia he served as an assistant to Bo Schembechler at the University of Michigan for two years.

He earned a master's degree in education from Kent State in 1965.

# INDEPENDENT SPORTS

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1982





**SIDELINER OFFICERS**— The Massillon Tiger Sideliners will, as always, take an active part in the fortunes of their favorite team this upcoming football season. Officers for

1982 are, from left: Bob Bushman, projects co-chairman; John Catlin, president; Phil Glick, secretary-treasurer; and Ken Schumacher, projects co-chairman.

(Photo by Mike Hudak)



Calhoun, Manion Massillon award winners

# Sportsmanship banquet honors Tiger foes

MASSILLON The sparkling Christmas ornaments dangled from the ceiling of the Massillon Moose Lodge like stars in a universe where the nighttime sky glowed with all the colors of a rainbow.

It was only fitting, not only of the season, but of the many great gridiron stars of the past and present who had been honored at this occasion before.

It was a gala night — the annual Massillon Jaycees and Massillon Tiger Sideliners Sportsmanship Award Banquets.

It was the 30th year for the banquet itself, and a special 25th anniversary for the Sideliners, and the organization's involvement with the fete.

Honored with a plaque was the top player in terms of athletic performance and citizenship from each Massillon 1982 opponent. The Tigers' own equivalent of the honor, the Bob Smith-Bill Snyder Memorial Award, was also presented, along with the Citizen Athlete Award.

The Smith-Snyder Award, presented by Tiger Town's No. 1 goodwill ambassador, Ducky Schroeder, is an awesome hunk of metal in the form of a giant 'M.' The trophy, which has a permanent home in the Tiger trophy case at the high school, now has the name of senior offensive guard Charles Calhoun inscribed upon it. Last year's winner was Rick Heather, with TV soap opera star David Canary another winner way back in 1955.

Senior strong safety Tom Manion was the proud winner of the Citizen Athlete Award, presented by Tiger Sideliner president John Catlin. The 1981 winner was Chuck York, while banquet MC John Muhlback Jr. was himself a recipient of the coveted laurel in 1964 before going on to star at Ohio State.

All except three of the honored foes were present. Berea's Ted Thompson couldn't attend because of a basketball commitment, but was represented by head coach Tom Madzy. (Tiger quarterback Brian DeWitz was disappointed Thompson couldn't attend — the affable junior

wanted to shake the hand of the man who 'dinged' him in the playoff game, starting city-wide rumors that he was unconscious in Massillon City Hospital, with injuries ranging anywhere from brain damage to being hooked up to life support systems). Also unable to attend because of time considerations were Sharon's Teryl Austin and Moeller's Hiawatha Francisco.

## INDEPENDENT SPORTS

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1982

Present to receive their awards were Perry's Bruno Millin, Akron Garfield's Charles Gladman, Warren Harding's Greg Bumbu, Akron Central-Hower's Ray Jackson, Newark's Doug Csubek, Barberton's Chris Maag, GlenOak's Monte Crowl, Mansfield's Vernon Hairston, Canton McKinley's Eddie Andrade and Sandusky's Ahmad Mutaali.

Each of the players were introduced by Massillon head coach Mike Currence. Clips of each of the visitor's exploits were shown in the past, but because of the Tigers' playoff involvement, and the numerous college scouts requesting time to study the films, there wasn't time to complete the project this year.

West Virginia head coach Don Nehlen was the main speaker, (see accompanying story), while the Reverend Robert P. Hoover of Central Presbyterian Church delivered the invocation and benediction.

Banquet chairman Philip Elum and his committee, consisting of Catlin, Jeff Heitger, Larry Steffee, Howard

HISTORY

SEE NEXT PAGE

1982

SIDELINERS



# Banquet speaker Nehlen charismatic, convincing

By MIKE HUDAK  
Independent Sports Editor

MASSILLON — "When I tell my players to go to hell, I want them to look forward to the trip."

And in this gentleman's case, they probably would.

The speaker was Canton South graduate Don Nehlen, now the coach of the Gator Bowl-bound West Virginia Mountaineers — and a man of powerful charisma.

It takes a man of charisma like Nehlen to turn a perennial loser like West Virginia into one of the nation's Top 20 teams in a period of three years. (In his second year he took the Mountaineers to an 8-3 record and a Peach Bowl championship.)

Nehlen's local roots extend well beyond high school. He went on to play quarterback for Bowling Green, then held head coaching jobs at both South and Canton McKinley before making a permanent return to the collegiate ranks.

Nehlen coached McKinley in 1964, taking the Pups to a 9-1 record; the only loss — the season-finale to state champ Massillon.

"Nehlen's probably the only former McKinley head coach to ever be the main speaker at this banquet," quipped master of ceremonies John Muhlback Jr.

Nehlen was the featured speaker at the Massillon Jaycees and Massillon Tiger Sideliner Sportsmanship Awards Banquet held Monday evening at the Massillon Moose.

A dynamic speaker, Nehlen's talk was aimed at the players and explained to them just what West Virginia looked for when it recruited athletes.

"We want athletes who are also good students," he said. "Last week we caught nine players cutting classes, and every one of them had to run up and down every step in a 52,000-seat stadium.

"We want people who are willing to work," he continued. "Our daily program demands a lot of effort. From 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. the players must attend classes, from 2 to 6 they're



Nehlen

involved in football meetings and practice, from 6 to 7 they eat, from 7:30 to 10 they have mandatory study hall, and then they're faced with an 11:45 curfew. My players have very little free time of their own.

"We want men of courage, too. You have to have the courage to hit, but you also have to have other types of courage — like the courage to play with pain, or the courage to stand up to your convictions and say no to crap like marijuana and alcohol which is on every campus.

"We look for unselfish players . . . players who take the attitude of a sign in our lockerroom — Big Team, Little Me.

"We look for confident people — people who believe in themselves without being cocky. At West Virginia, we believe we can beat anyone in the country.

"I like enthusiastic players; players who will jump up and down and get excited. I once had a biology teacher who was so enthused about cutting up dead cats that soon I was enthused too. Enthusiasm's catching.

"We look for coachable players. On Sundays after a game, we verbally abuse our players for mistakes, not by name but by position. Young men must be able to understand that we have nothing against them personally, but that criticism is to help make them a better player.

"Honesty is another important quality. If a player isn't honest with me, I can't help him with his problems or as a football player. Conversely, if I wasn't honest with each and every one of my players, they wouldn't respect me, either.

And the last quality to succeed in big time football?

"You have to be big and fast," Nehlen told the gathering. "There are exceptions, but you have to be a superstar in all the other categories to be an exception."

In one sense, Nehlen made it sound tough, real tough, to make it as a big-time athlete. But conversely, his sincerity and enthusiasm made the effort seem all worth while for those who dared to be great.

After all, there was at least one reporter there who wasn't so big or fast, and *definitely* lacked in discipline. But after hearing Nehlen, he was ready to vow off drinking, throw away his cigarettes and stick his hands in a vat of Stickum for the glory of playing wide receiver for West Virginia!



# Nehlen a hit at W. Virginia!

• From Page 39

Nehlen has signed some of Stark County's best players the past two years: McKinley's Gary Pounds, a tackle, Scott Dixon, a linebacker and Todd Fisher, a receiver, and Perry's Chuck Jolliff, a guard. Pounds and Dixon are probable starters for 1983.

Nehlen was tired by the time he rolled into Massillon Tuesday. He had left Morgantown at 7 a.m. for a recruiting mission in Pittsburgh, then he headed for Stark County.

He was led to a room in Massillon Moose Lodge for a press conference, and when he sat down at 5:30 p.m., he yawned widely and, it seemed, involuntarily.

But he appeared fresh by the time he delivered a speech to 350 people at 8 p.m.

Tuesday's workday was typical for Nehlen.

"If I have a week in which I work only 85 to 90 hours, my wife thinks I got fired," Nehlen said.

"But I love the job. And as long as I feel the way I do today, I'll keep coaching."

Working ridiculously long hours is unavoidable, Nehlen said.

"It's too competitive," he said. "There's somebody out there staying up all night long figuring out ways to beat your butt."

"You'd better stay hungry."

Nehlen said that's no problem for him.

"I'm totally dissatisfied with most aspects of our program," he said. "It's strong, but I want it stronger."

Now that the Mountaineers star has risen, chances are West Virginians will expect Nehlen to keep it aloft.

At first, Nehlen was expected merely to pull the Mountaineers out of the pits into respectability. He did that and more. Now he may be expected not only to win, but to win big.

Such a thing happened to another Stark County product, Massillon's Don James, who whipped a sagging University of Washington program into shape, then was expected to contend for the national championship this year.

Nehlen said he'll do his best, but ...

"I'm smart enough to know we're not going to win nine games every year against the schedule we play," he said. "If somebody would have

told me in August that we'd be 9-2 against our schedule, I'd have felt his head to see if there was a soft spot.

"Pressure? The greatest pressure is the pressure you put on yourself."

It's hard to predict how West Virginia fans would react to Nehlen if West Virginia tumbled.

Only this is certain: they love him now.

Oh, how they loved him after the Mountaineers knocked off mighty Oklahoma in the season opener — in Oklahoma. It was the first time Oklahoma head coach Barry Switzer lost a game in Norman.

And how they love the national exposure of playing in a bowl game. West Virginia's Gator Bowl allotment was 19,600 tickets. The last one was snapped up six hours after the first one went. In contrast Bowling Green, where Nehlen coached previously, can't even afford to send its band to the California Bowl.

Mountaineer football has lifted West Virginia's morale.

West Virginia Gov. Jay Rockefeller has made it his business to befriend Nehlen.

"I like the governor," Nehlen said. "I remember the first time I was in his mansion, and we were at dinner. I didn't know what we were eating, and I didn't know how to eat it, but I told him it was good."

"The governor's a great supporter of the program. Our kids call him Captain Rocky, and he's even got his own helmet."

Don Nehlen is a great admirer of Bo Schembechler.

He called Schembechler the best coach in the country.

"I wish Bo would run for president, because at least then I'd know who to vote for," Nehlen said. "He might not know much about being president, but I guarantee this: he'd lead."

What makes Schembechler so special?

"Every coach in the country knows how to run off tackle," was the way Nehlen began the answer. "And every coach in the country knows how to line up on defense."

"The ones who are successful are the ones who get 11 players who are willing to die for the coach. Bo Schembechler is that kind of coach."

Don Nehlen is getting there.



DON NEHLEN



# HISTORY

1982

Wacker and Jeff Wade, did an outstanding job in putting together this year's program.

"This banquet was something else," said GlenOak's Crowl, the speedy quarterback who led the Golden Eagles to the Federal league title. "It's really nice of the people of Massillon and the organizations involved to do something like this for the other teams."

**TIG-BITS** — The "DeWitz Demise Imminent" rumor had a life span of a week, but the rumor that wouldn't die concerned Charles Gladman of Akron Garfield.

Ever since the junior carried for over 190 yards against Massillon early in the season, the rumor mill had Gladman's mother already working at any number of Massillon businesses, with Gladman either enrolled at Washington High or soon to be enrolled.

Face-to-face with Gladman seemed to be a good time to broach the subject. Gladman's answer?

"I don't know anything about that. All I know about Massillon is that I've come down here twice to run the football, and that's all I know. Nobody's said anything to me about moving to Massillon. No sir."

*Clarification* — My main man, Tiger All-Ohioan Chris Spielman, was worried that he sounded "unappreciative"

when it was reported that declined to speak following his acceptance of the "Hardnose Award" at Monday's Touchdown Club luncheon.

"I just didn't have anything prepared," he explained.

No one minded; the members of the Touchdown Club are far more interested in his play on the gridiron than his attempts to emulate Demosthenes, while his teammates already know what he sounds like.

As for me, I just want to stay on the good side of the man whose biography I intend to write some-day!



CHARLES CALHOUN



TOM MANION



**AWARD WINNERS** — Players from Massillon Tiger 1982 opponents were presented Sportsmanship Awards Tuesday night. Winners were, from left, (front row) Monte Crowl, GlenOak; Vernon Hairston, Mansfield; Charles Gladman, Garfield; Greg Bumbu, Warren Harding; (back

row) Ray Jackson, Central-Hower; Doug Csubek, Newark; Chris Maag, Barberton; Ed Andrade, McKinley; Ahmad Mutaali, Sandusky, and Bruno Millin, Perry.

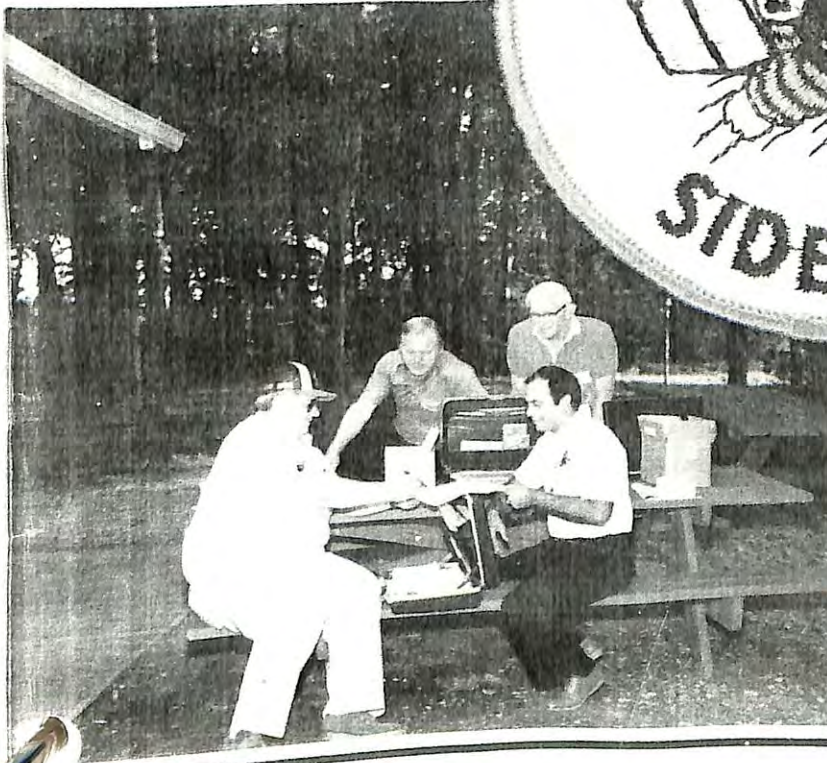
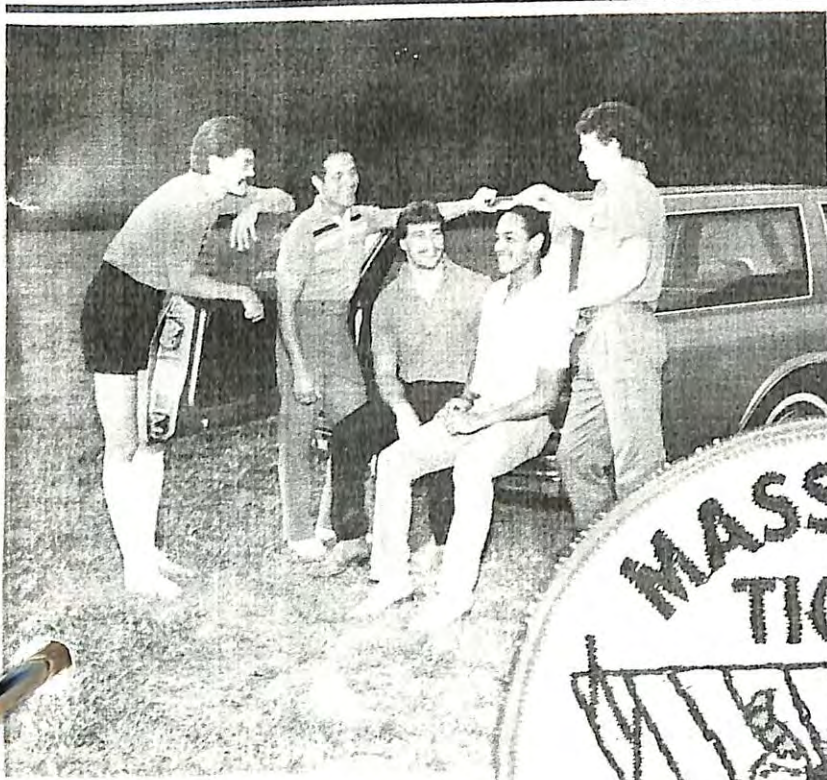
(Photos courtesy The Respository)

## SIDELINERS



# TIGERS FOOTBALL

PROGRAM \$1.00



**Massillon Tigers vs. Akron Central Hower** 1983

PAUL BROWN TIGER STADIUM  
SEPTEMBER 23 1983

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# SIDELINERS



Independent photo by Steve Dungen

**PROUD RECIPIENTS** — Two members of the Massillon Tiger football team proudly display their plaques from Thursday night's 31st annual Sportsmanship Awards Banquet at the Knights of Columbus Hall. From left are, Tiger Sideliner president Phillip Elum, Steve

Walterhouse, John Franke and Jaycee president Glenn Gamber. Elum presented Walterhouse with the Citizen Athlete Award and Gamber presented Franke with the Bob Smith-J.W. "Bill" Snyder Memorial Award.

1983



# Kent St. coach to speak at Jaycee-Sideliner fete

By The Independent Staff

MASSILLON — Dick Scesniak, head football coach at Kent State University, will be the guest speaker at the 32nd annual Massillon Jaycee-Tiger Sideliner Awards Banquet to be held Dec. 11 at 6:30 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall.



Scesniak

The dinner will recognize the outstanding athlete-sportsman of each team that played Massillon in the 1984 season.

The Tiger winner will be announced on the night of the banquet.

## SIDELINERS

1984

# Scesniak tells gridgers 'future is now'

By STEVE DUNGJEN  
Independent Sports Editor

MASSILLON — Jim Bryan played the role of Santa Claus, and Dick Scesniak that of a wide-eyed little boy opening presents at Christmas. Bryan, emcee of the 32nd annual Massillon Jaycee-Tiger Sideliner Sportsmanship Awards Banquet held Tuesday night at the Knights of Columbus Hall, gave the head football coach at Kent State University a bag full of Tiger football memorabilia.

Scesniak, who took over the KSU grid fortunes in April of 1983, promptly blew a sigh of relief and announced to the gathering that his Christmas shopping for his three children was over.

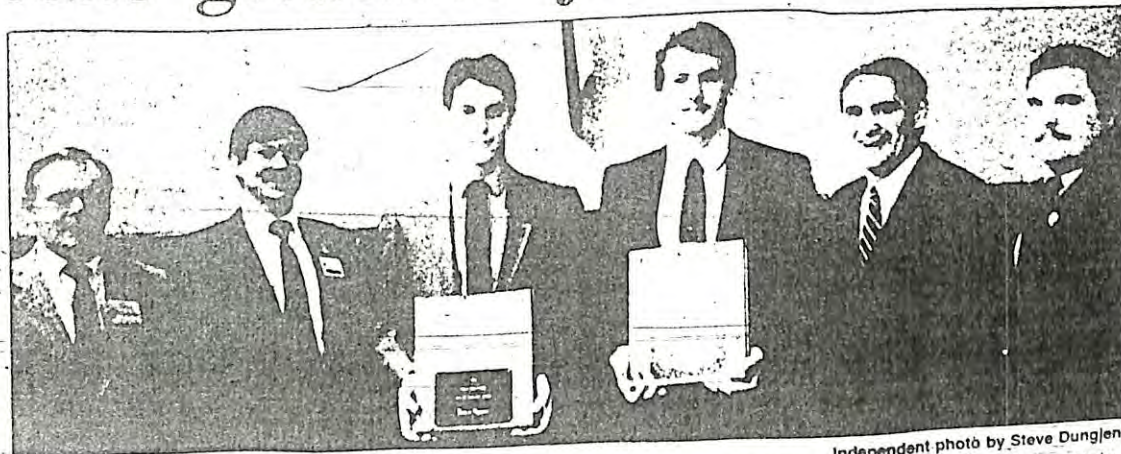
Following the warm welcome accorded Scesniak, the 44-year-old guest speaker got down to business.

He talked about Kent State, football and the young men in attendance.

Scesniak said one of the major hurdles Kent State officials face is convincing people to attend their university, selling them on the product. He was openly miffed by the "your a Mid-American Conference caliber player" syndrome, saying that Kent and the MAC are as interested in getting quality players as any other Division I college.

He said that before you could enjoy any success you had to face a certain amount of adversity. Somewhere out there, he said, there is always someone rising to the occasion, overcoming the odds.

Scesniak used NFL great and a KSU alumnus Jack Lambert as a prime example of rising to the occasion. Lambert was moved from defensive end to a middle linebacker, having to learn a new position



Independent photo by Steve Dungjen.

**TIGER AWARD WINNERS** — Two members of the Massillon Tiger football team were feted during Tuesday's 32nd annual Massillon Jaycees and Tiger Sideliners Sportsmanship Awards Banquet. From left are Sideliner president Ed Jordan, Jaycee president

Mark Percival, Citizenship Award winner Bruce Spicer, Bob Smith-J.W. "Bill" Smith Memorial Award winner Pat Spicer, Kent State University head coach and guest speaker Dick Scesniak and banquet chairman Bob Ahlstrom.

Lambert, who is ticketed to an almost certain berth in pro football's Hall of Fame in Canton, grew at his new position by hard work and a total commitment to excellence, Scesniak said.

He drew a parallel of Lambert's growth to that of KSU, an institution that he said is committed to bringing the football program back to prominence.

"Little by little we are changing it," Scesniak said. "You can't build a skyscraper on a two-story foundation. It's been a heck of a transition in two years."

The Golden Flashes went one stretch from 1981 to 1983 without winning in 20 straight games. Attendance was down and recruiting was at an all-time low.

But this past year KSU started to turn its fortunes around, compiling

a 4-4 record at one time before finishing at 4-7. Attendance was never better, and Scesniak is looking for a banner recruiting year.

"We want players who can come to Kent and graduate, and then we can put Kent back on the map," he said.

Scesniak said he looks for more than just a football player. He wants someone who is determined to excel at life and not just be another jock who has nothing to fall back on when his fooyball days are over.

"The future is now. You can't play football forever, so prepare yourself for your life now," he said. "No matter what your skills are, you should develop them and get an education."

Scesniak came to KSU from the University of Wisconsin, where he

was an offensive line coach in 1982. Prior to that, he had a long period of success with former Massillon assistant coach Don James at Kent State (1971-74) and the University of Washington (1975-78).

From 1971 through 1974 Kent State enjoyed its greatest offensive explosion with Scesniak the coordinator of that attack.

In 1979 he joined the New York Giants of the NFL as an offensive line coach. Disillusioned with life in the NFL, Scesniak then became a sales representative for the Weyerhaeuser Corporation in Tacoma, Wash., a position he held until joining the Wisconsin staff in 1982.

He also has been associated with the University of Missouri, Iowa State University and the University of Utah.



# SIDELINERS

## Bruce and Pat Spicer, Massillon foes honored at Jaycee-Sideliner banquet

By STEVE DUNGJEN

Independent Sports Editor

MASSILLON — Eric Finn, Willie Perez, Verdell Rice and Jeff Smith.

Their legacies will long be remembered in Tigertown. That's because that quartet played big roles in all four Massillon football losses this past fall.

Finn rushed for more than 100 yards and scored two touchdowns as Akron Garfield beat the Tigers 29-12 in the second week of the season.

The following week Perez scored three times, had two quarterback sacks and led Warren Harding to an 18-6 win on a sparkling 78-yard punt return for a TD.

Rice followed in Perez's wake the next week by gaining 206 yards rushing, scoring three times and sending the Tigers to a 20-18 setback. Rice's rushing total is an all-time best against Massillon.

Smith was a one-man wrecking crew on the final week of the year when McKinley soared to a 17-6 win behind his interception in the end zone and TD reception.

Tuesday night at the Knights of Columbus Hall, that foursome along six other opponents of the Tigers this year were honored at the 32nd annual Massillon Jaycee and Tiger Sideliner Sportsmanship Awards Banquet.

Also honored were Massillon Tiger cousins Bruce and Pat Spicer. Pat Spicer received the Bob Smith-J.W. "Bill" Snyder Sportsmanship Memorial Award and Bruce Spicer was named recipient of the Citizen-Athlete Award.

The six other opponents of Massillon lauded were Akron North linebacker Jeff Baldwin, Cleveland St. Joseph defensive tackle Bill Flowers, Stow split end-free safety Cyle Feldman, Barberton halfback Mike Fields, Akron St. Vincent-St. Mary tailback Henry Henderson and Perry linebacker Mike Recktenwalt.

That talent on the other side of the



Independent photo by Steve Dungjen

**SPORTSMANSHIP WINNERS** — Recipients of awards at Tuesday's 32nd annual Massillon Jaycees and Tiger Sideliners Sportsmanship Awards Banquet are, from left, (front) Akron Garfield's Eric Finn, Akron St. Vincent-St. Mary's Henry Henderson, Canton McKinley's Jeff Smith, (back) Warren Harding's

Willie Perez, Akron North's Jeff Baldwin, Perry's Mike Recktenwalt and Akron Central-Hower's Verdell Rice. Absent were Cleveland-St. Joseph's Bill Flowers, Stow's Cyle Feldman and Barberton's Mike Fields.

field wasn't lost on Tiger head football coach Mike Currence, who said he'd like nothing better than for those 10 players to have worn the orange and black this year.

When Rice was introduced by Currence, the senior took the microphone and told the throng he had been poked in the eye at a school rally the day of the Hower-Tiger game. Rice said he kept ice on his eye all day to prevent swelling.

"It came down to whether or not a guy has the guts to play or not, and we were looking for anybody who could take a snap from center," the halfback-turned-quarterback said.

"Verdell, it hurts even more now that a guy with one eye did that to us," Currence joked as the audience broke up.

"I'd like to have all 10 on my team, and then maybe I can be a winner again. You know I was 0-4 this year

and my assistants were 6-0. I've been here nine years and sometimes I wonder how I survived. We had a very tough year," Currence said.

The trio of Flowers, Feldman and Fields were not in attendance. Both Feldman and Fields are members of their school's respective basketball teams.

Guest speaker was Kent State University head football coach Dick Scesniak.

1984



# Tiger Sideliners

## Group offers gridders support, encouragement

By STEVE DUNGJEN  
Independent Sports Editor

First of four articles

MASSILLON — When it comes to football in Tigertown, things are done right or they are not done at all.

Everybody, it seems, wants to be a part of the football program.

One group that lends its support is the Sideliners, one of the most unique entities around.

Organized in 1957, the last coaching year of Lee Tressel, the Sideliners are a "big brother" for the Tigers' varsity players. Each

active member is assigned a player to help out in any way possible.

The active Sideliner meets with "his player" before and after each pre-season, regular season or post-season game. He also attends an evening meal once a week with his assigned player during the regular season.

There are currently between 80 and 90 active members who pay \$40 a year. That fee includes a parking pass, a window decal and meals for the participant and his assigned player.

Also, there are 20 to 30 inactive Sideliner members. This group pays \$25 a year for a parking pass and window decal, but because they do not have the time they are not assigned a player. However, inactive members still lend their full support of the organization and football program.

"The fellow who participates isn't the fellow out for the fame and fortune of it," said current Sideliner president Ed Jordan.

"It makes you feel younger because you are with youth," said secretary-treasurer Phil Glick. "You learn to laugh and cry with them (the players). It's really a unique experience."

"In the years that I've been involved, I'd say that 95 percent of the feedback is that the kids really respect their Sideliner. It goes both ways."

Maurice Basler, one of the members of the Sideliners' founding committee, remembers that day in 1957 when Tressel telephoned him with the idea.

"We lived pretty much across the street from him," Basler said. "He called a meeting at his home and told us what he had in mind. It's a group of good men helping the program out. We're kinda proud of it."

One of the charter members is Dick Bordner, who's served as a Sideliner for 15 players. Because of his work schedule, he has not been an active Sideliner for the past two years.

"I felt that I was helping out a little bit," Bordner said of his involvement. "It was a relationship that gave me a chance to be around the players."

"I think it's a really good prog-

ram. Lee (Tressel) felt it was a worthwhile program, and that an adult relationship would be good for the players who weren't getting it elsewhere. Sometimes the parents are a bit more emotional about things than the kids, and they can't see for forest because of the trees."

The Sideliners are quick to note that they are not a substitute for the player's father. They would never wedge themselves between the boy and his family.

"A lot of the parents were once Sideliners or players themselves," Jordan said. "We are not a substitute for the boy's father."

"The Sideliner is in it because he loves it," said Glick. "He's always available. I have a spiel that may be kinda corny, but I start out with 'I have a lot of faults of my own, but the

## SIDELINERS

## 1984



one thing I won't do is lie to you." "They (the players) like the idea that I'm available when they need me, and that I really care about them."

When joining, each Sideliner is given a membership card. On the back of it is the creed:

- show dedication by support and encouragement;
- strive to develop positive attitudes;
- promote personal development, sportsmanship and citizenship;
- and instill strong personal and team pride.

Next: Mike Currence on the Sideliners.



# Tiger Sideliners work closely with coaches

By STEVE DUNGJEN  
Independent Sports Editor  
Second of four articles

MASSILLON — Formed in 1957, the Sideliners have served thousands of Tiger football players. The Sideliners have also worked hand-in-hand with seven head football coaches, starting with Lee Tressel who helped to form the "big brother" organization.



"Any time you get a new coach here they kinda frown on it until they get to know what the Sideliners are about," said Dick Bordner, a charter member of the Sideliners.

"Once they see the value of the program they're all for it."

And that held true for Mike Currence, who arrived in Tigertown in 1976 from Lakewood St. Edward. Currence, who is in his ninth year, was skeptical of the Sideliners at first.

"The Sideliners was like an unknown quantity to me because I had never worked with a group that had personal contact with the players before," he said. "All of the other booster clubs I had worked with were money groups."

It didn't take Currence long to take the Sideliners to heart, though.

"My first concern was that all the players get treated equally and have a Sidelineer. We've changed the Sideliners a lot since I've been here," Currence noted. "It's such an important part of the program."

"Our Sideliners are committed to upholding all the rules put forth by the coaching staff."

The Tiger coaching staff presents each Sidelineer with a list of do's and don'ts.

Some of the do's are:

— be positive with him, the team, and the coaching staff;

— encourage him to work harder on the field and in the classroom;

— invite him to attend some social events or to your house during the season and the off-season;

— try to guide him in the right direction, especially with his off-the-field activities;

— talk to his coach about any special problems he has at home or in school;

— come into the locker room to see him after the game;

— talk to his parents about any problems in which you can help;

— pick up your player each Thursday by 5:30 p.m. and see that he gets home after the meal;

— encourage the player to abide by all the team training rules set forth by the coaches;

— and be a good listener. Try to give him good advice.

Some of the don'ts are:

— don't be critical of your player, team or coaching staff;

— don't encourage him to break training rules or regulations;

— don't tell him how to play his position or how great you were as a player;

— don't drop him off at a girl friend's house on Thursday night;

— don't complain about the food or take him to some other place to eat;

— don't give him expensive gifts or money;

— don't ignore him when he needs help or a job;

— don't give up on him when he is in trouble or is not playing;

— don't ask him for information about the team's other players, or force him to talk football when he is not allowed to respond;

— don't try to be his father unless he needs one;

— don't be a buddy or pal when he needs your guidance instead;

— don't agree with your player when you know he is wrong.

"A football player has to be a disciplined player who obeys a rigid set of rules. He has to get sleep, rest and stay healthy," Currence said. "I have 80 players, and there's no way I can check on all of them. I need the Sideliners, and I depend on them." Next: Former players who are active Sideliners



# Sideliners play fatherly

9th Part of a Series Published in

## Massillon's Sideliners act as 2nd father to players

# role

In Massillon, high school football is more than a sport and the players are only part of the action.

The Year of the Tiger, a series running on Mondays throughout the high school football season, focuses on a time of year when the identities of town and team seem to merge.

Today's story takes a look at the Sideliners, who become personal fans and mentors of the players.

By Bill Osinski

Beacon Journal staff writer

Every Tiger has a man for all season.

That man is a Sideliner, the player's guaranteed fan and designated shoulder to lean on. He is someone who cares about the young man's trigonometry grades as well as touchdowns.

For a teen-ager involved in a high-



pressure high school football program, the Sideliner is a coach who won't blow the whistle on him, an adult who isn't always enforcing rules, someone who will listen.

The Massillon Tiger Sideliners are a group of men who take community involvement with the team down to the locker-room level. They are volunteers, with no connection to the young men to whom they are assigned other than a

See SIDELINERS, page A8

Continued from page A1

desire to help them and the football program.

To be assigned a Sideliner means to have made it officially as a varsity player. The rite of passage normally occurs at the beginning of a player's junior year, and the only complaint heard from the football parents about the Sideliner program comes when there is a delay in having their boy assigned to one.

In the basic Sideliner-player relationship, the Sideliner takes his player to an informal dinner on Thursday nights during the season, slaps his back as the team charges onto the field for the game and visits him in the locker room after the game, win or lose.

"We just want to have a guy come by to each player and say, 'You played a nice game,'" said Ed Jordan, president of the Sideliners club this year.

Even those small considerations can mean a lot to the young men.

Losing a football game in Massillon can mean getting a feeling that everybody in town is angry at you.

"Everybody but your Sideliner," corrected Bruce Spicer, a senior wide receiver for the Tigers.

"When you go to a store with your team jacket on, people ask you what happened," said junior linebacker Paul Sibila. "But your Sideliner doesn't ask why."

Wes Siegenthaler, a junior wide receiver who transferred to Massillon before this season, said his Sideliner, Dennis Gibson, helped him adjust to the new team and the new town.

"Mr. and Mrs. Gibson have done everything in the world for me and my brother," Siegenthaler said.

Gibson is the Sideliner for both Spicer and Siegenthaler this season, his 18th in the program.

"It's easy to be a Sideliner when they're winning," Gibson said. "But they really need you when you lose."

There have been roughly equal measures of gloom and joy in the Tiger dressing room this season, but after Friday night's game against Stow, Gibson's face wasn't wide enough for his grin.

"I've got the two best ends in the state of Ohio," Gibson said

to his charges as they dressed. And though his assessment was admittedly biased, the play of his boys backed up his boast; Spicer and Siegenthaler each scored a touchdown and made several clutch receptions in a wildly exciting 38-31 Massillon victory.

The Sideliners aren't exactly volunteers; they have to pay \$40 a season to be in the club. That money covers only a small part of the cost of the 10 Thursday night meals to which the Sideliners treat the team.

Some men in town are inactive Sideliners, meaning they pay \$25 but are not assigned to a player. The only tangible reward that the inactive and active Sideliners receive is a parking space close to the stadium.

To make up the difference between the fees and the cost of the dinners, the Sideliners sell tickets to a strange sort of a raffle held each week of the season.

SEE NEXT PAGE



Hundreds of tickets are sold around town every week for the raffle, in which the second prize is usually \$50. The first prize is a ball from the previous week's Massillon game.

For the week following the Canton McKinley game, the stakes go up, but only for second prize. At that raffle, the first prize is still the game ball, but the consolation prize is a

cash award or an appliance such as a microwave oven, usually worth about \$500.

"I know guys who won second prize but would throw their microwave out the window to get the McKinley game ball," said Phil Glick, a longtime Sideliner.

For organizational and business purposes, the Sideliners are an arm of the Massillon Tiger Football Booster Club.

Beyond the commitments to the weekly dinner and the locker room visits, the Sideliners are encouraged to develop deeper relationships with the players. They become go-betweens for the players who might be having problems on the team, at school or at home.

Sideliners are third-party advocates for the player, but they are discouraged from automatically taking the player's side, just as they are discouraged from doing things such as dropping him off at his girlfriend's house or slipping him a \$10 bill after a winning effort.

Sideliners generally are assigned to players on a random basis, although the coaching staff might ask that a player with difficult problems be assigned to a Sideliner who has the time and inclination to give the boy some extra attention.

Typically, the juniors are more reserved in dealing with their Sideliners, but by the time they are seniors, some of the boys and their Sideliners become very close.

Terry Spicer, whose son, Bruce, is the fourth son to play on the Tiger varsity, said he saw no conflict in having another adult do fatherly things for his sons. In fact, he said, he has been a Sideliner for several seasons himself.

"Sometimes the boys will open up more to their Sideliners than they do to their parents; that's just the way kids are," Spicer said. "Besides, sometimes it helps to have somebody else helping to keep an eye on them."

As is the case with most of

the Sideliners, Glick doesn't have any school-age sons left at home. As is also the case with many Sideliners, he finds it difficult to find labels for the relationships that develop between the boys and the men.

"We're not substitute parents," Glick said. "We don't pamper them, either. They work hard, and we just help them along."

But for Glick and many of the other Sideliners, the relationships with the young men extend far beyond the football field. The players are often included on their Sideliners' family outings, and former players

often visit their Sideliners over the holidays, he said.

One year, the father of the senior assigned to Glick died in the middle of the season.

"I'll probably never recapture the closeness I had with that boy," Glick said.

When Glick and his wife visited the young man the following year at his college, he introduced the Glicks as his "Sideliner parents," Glick said.

As much as the Sideliner program means to the players and the team, the old guys get a lot out of it, too.

"I've found out there's a lot of nice young men you don't read about in the paper," Glick said.



Beacon Journal photos by Dennis C

Members of the Sideliners watch during football team's warm-up





Bruce Spicer with his Sideline, Dennis Gibson

1984



## Tigers laud '85, eye '86

So many thoughts travel through a room when 700 people are in it.

You thoroughly know only your own thoughts but you can have some fun guessing at other people's.

I figured that Augie Morningstar and Ducky Schroeder and Leo Strang were sitting at their table remembering when their old teams were up there at the head table.

The seat next to mine contained Lut Emery and I could hear him thinking out loud about when they started having these banquets where they tell the football players what a good job they did.

The year was 1934. The coach was somebody named Brown.

I forget where Lut said they ate but that's beside the point. They've been having these Massillon Tiger football banquets a long time, that's all.

On this night a new coach named Maronto was talking about so many young faces that looked all the more fresh against the backdrop of old faces. Old faces that were young at a Massillon Tiger banquet back when.

I think John Maronto was a little worried about whether everybody who deserved a thank you got one. There are a lot of people to thank when you have something that is big enough to warrant 600 people showing up for some chops and some talk on a December week-night.

I suppose a certain number of

folks were sitting there wondering if Maronto's Tigers would have done better than 7-3 if the offense had let its hair down a bit more.

If you're wondering whether Maronto is a conservative coach, I'd mention — not in passing — that he and Bo Schembechler are friends.

During the four-hour program a busy fellow named Phil Elum, who has run the Tiger Booster Club the past year, made a special presentation concerning the 600th football victory won by the Massillon Tigers.

The win came in a 34-0 blowout over Warren Harding Sept. 13. Phil Elum said folks shouldn't forget all of the players and coaches who were there long before Sept. 13.

As he said it Augie Morningstar got a warm kidding-serious pat on the back from his wife.

If you want the truth, the scene made me think of Mike Currence. I remembered Mike Currence's manner at all of these banquets he had led.

I remembered writing a column that said the school board was all wrong in the way it chose to push Mike Currence out the door.

Months later it said here that the football program was in good hands with John Maronto.

And it says again today that the school board was all wrong and John Maronto is all right.

The boss said one day not long ago

that I ought to spill some ink exploring a question: Was the whole Mike Currence ordeal worth it?

But what's to explore? The deed is done. A better question seems to be, where are we now?

I'd say where the town is, is healed.



Steve Doerschuk  
Independent Sports Editor

In some households, but not many, the wounds remain open. In some homes, but not many, scar tissue remains.

In most homes, life goes on as ever.

The huge turnout at a banquet was bountiful evidence of the healing.

The promise of a good season in '86 helps, too — a bevy of juniors played a bundle of downs this fall.

And I think it's sinking in just about everywhere that John Maronto is the ultimate "A" person — organized to the "T."

It is valuable to raise one point before we leave the topic: everyone should reflect on the judgment that was employed during 1985, and pro-

ceed with greater sensitivity and wisdom.

One of the bright things to come of the season was a point for all seasons — youngsters heal quickly.

The senior football players were asked to think out loud in front of a microphone, with all of those people listening.

Their words became the heart of a warm night.

"Thank you, God, for giving me the ability to play ball," is what Duane Crenshaw, the defensive MVP, said. "Thank you for letting me play here. No other town in the world has tradition like Massillon."

"My father gave up a lot so I could be here," said Wes Siegenthaler, the MVP on offense. "I came to Massillon two years ago, and if I had it to do all over again, I'd be first in line."

"Most importantly," said Mark Gatsios, "I want to thank my mom and dad."

"Mom," Paul Sibila said a bit later, "has been running me to practice since I was in the fifth grade. Thanks, mom."

"Massillon has a reputation as being a tough football town," said Cornell Jackson, the running back. "But the people showed me another side. I want to thank you for what you did my junior season, for all of the support you gave me when my father passed away."

The room grew silent. Sometimes you can sense the thoughts of the person next to you.



Steve Doerschuk/INDE

**TOAST OF TIGERTOWN** — These young men were spotlighted Wednesday night in Knights of Columbus Hall when the 1985 Massillon Tiger football team was honored. The players, and the special honors they received, are, from left, (front) junior Shannon Dryden, most improved junior varsity player on offense; senior Rod Patt, top specialist; Ettore Scassa, WTIG most improved defensive player; Ed Wentzel, top specialist; senior Howard Evans; top specialist; junior Todd Perdue, Bengal Award; junior Jerrod Vance, Bengal Award and 1985 captain; senior Wes Siegenthaler, offensive MVP and Captains Award; (back) senior Duane Crenshaw, defensive MVP, Sportsmanship Award and

Hardnose Award; senior Paul Fabianich, Iron Man Award; senior Paul Sibila, WTIG most improved offensive player; senior Chris Aegerter, Iron Man Award; senior Rod Lutz, Sideline Citizenship Award and Captains Award; junior Bart Letcavits, 1985 captain; senior Joe Luckring, Ducky Schroeder Offensive Lineman Award; junior Tony Lambert, Bengal Award and 1986 captain; junior Lance Hostetler, 1986 captain; junior Hoagy Pfisterer, 1986 captain and Bengal Award. Mark Harder, a senior, also received a Captains Award.

## SIDELINERS



# Tigers...

Continued from Page 11

"I would be very wrong," Maron to said, "if I failed to mention that in all of my years in coaching, and in all of the years the staff has been in the profession, we have never been affiliated with a team that had to come through more adversity than the 1986 Tigers.

"The players never offered any excuses. They met the challenge as well as any team I've ever coached.

"We're very proud of the team we put on the field this year."

That team was captained by Horner, Hostetler, senior guard Tony Lambert, Letcavits and All-Ohio linebacker Jerrod Vance. Near the end of the program, that fivesome came up to shake hands with the three juniors announced as captains for the 1987 season — John Miller, Jerome Myricks and Steve Siegenthaler.

Lambert got a load off his chest a while after accepting the Ducky Schroeder Offensive Lineman Award.

"There's something I want to say to the juniors," he said at the start of a comment that would draw a loud ovation. "I want to thank you right now for doing something that we seniors never were a part of in our time here. I want to thank you in advance for beating McKinley next year."

Several special varsity awards were presented. They included:

Iron Man Awards — seniors Steve Bushman, Mike Kring, Hoagy Pfisterer, Todd Perdue and Brian Teeple.

Bengal Awards — senior Matt Swank, Wilson, Harris, Perdue and Vance.

WTIG Most Improved Players — offense, senior Todd Feemster; defense, senior Bob Foster.

WOAC-TV-67-offensive and defensive players of the year — Hostetler and Harris.

WHBC Most Valuable Player — Wilson.

Sideliner Citizenship Award — senior Shannon Dryden.

Bob Smith-Bill-Snyder Sportsmanship Award — Letcavits.

Touchdown Club Hardnose Award — Swank.

Reese's Raiders "E" Awards — Swank and Lambert.

Top specialist — Hawkins.

Top lineman — Vance and Gruno.

Top backs — offense, Mike Norris; defense, Wilson.

Lifter of the year — Hostetler and John Miller.

Thirty seniors said their good-byes. In addition to those already mentioned, they were Robbie Balizet, John Calhoun, Evan Hannon, Michael Harris, Andre Hooten, Antti-Hyvonen, Mark Jackson, Eric Marks, Sean Murphy, Tom Radel, Robbie Sauers, Billy Sibila and Kevin Spicer.

Most improved awards were presented to members of the junior varsity and sophomore teams. Jayvee awards went to Scott Smith, Erik White and Bob Lillo. Sophomore awards were accepted by Trace Liggett and Rusty Weir.



Letcavits



Wilson



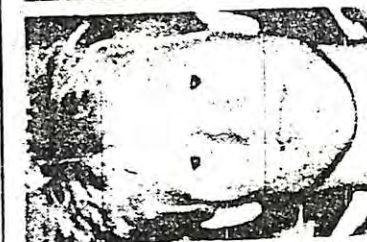
Vance



Norris



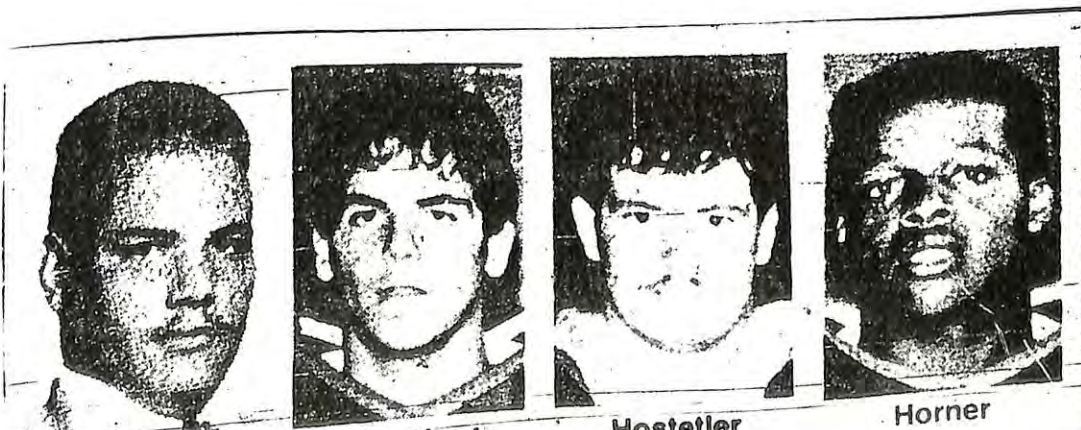
Feemster



Pfisterer

# HISTORY

# 1986

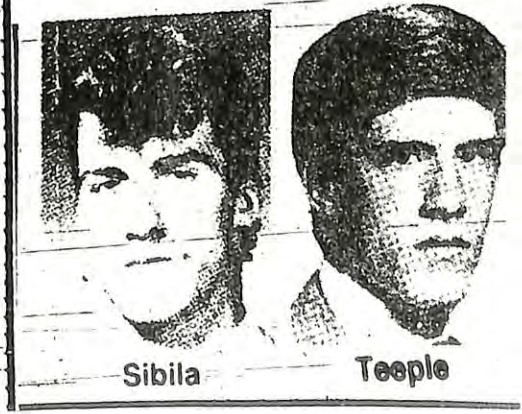


Perdue

Lambert

Hostetler

Horner



Sibila

Teeple



# MSU coach Perles

## to speak here

### By The Independent Staff

MASSILLON — Former Massillon Tiger Craig Johnson's college coach will be the guest speaker at the Sideline-Jaycee Sportsmanship Awards Banquet next Thursday at Knights of Columbus Hall.

Michigan State University head coach George Perles will give the keynote speech at the banquet which will honor a player from each of the 10 foes the Tigers took on this past season.

The public is welcome. Tickets are \$10 each and can be purchased at the Massillon Chamber of Commerce or the high school ticket office. A social hour will begin at 5:30 p.m. followed by dinner at 6:30.

Saluted will be running back Lawrence Moore of Akron North, linebacker Mark McCullough of Akron Garfield, linebacker Vince Goliday of Warren Harding, middle guard Michael Junius of Central-Hower, quarterback Joe Underation of Barberton, quarterback-

safety Dave Phillips of Austintown-Fitch, fullback-linebacker Ralph Godic of Cleveland St. Joseph, linebacker Carl Myers of St. Vincent-St. Mary, quarterback-linebacker Tracy Seery of Perry and fullback-linebacker Percy Snow of McKinley.

Perles, a noted public speaker, is in his third year as Michigan State's mentor and has led the Spartans to a second straight bowl appearance. The Spartans, 7-4, will take on Georgia Tech in the All-American Bowl

Jan. 31. Johnson is a kick returner and backup tailback for the squad.

Perles was the defensive coordinator on the Pittsburgh Steelers' four Super Bowl teams.

Perles' trip here was arranged by his friend John Maronto, the Tigers' head football coach.

"I got to know John real well when he was the coach at De La Salle in the Detroit area," Perles said Wednesday. "I'm looking forward to being in Massillon."

SIDELINERS  
1985





L.C. Steffee/FOR THE INDE

**BOSS BOILERMAKER** — Purdue head football coach Fred Akers congratulates Tiger linebacker Scott Sampsel (center) and receiver-defensive back Craig York for their honors at Thursday's Jaycee-Sideliners Sportsmanship Awards Banquet. Akers was the guest speaker at the 35th annual event. Sampsel was awarded the Bob Smith/Bill Snyder Award, presented by the Jaycees, and York won the Lee Tressel Citizenship Award, presented by the Sideliners.

1987



# Jaycees, Sideliners honor top Tiger foes

*Purdue coach says self-image is key  
element to success*

The athletes rated as the best performers against the 1987 Massillon Tigers were honored Thursday.

And they, along with their coaches, families, peers and many Tiger fans who admired their labors on the gridiron, were asked a question:

"Ever try to put a puzzle together without looking at the picture?"

The event was the 35th Annual Awards Banquet of the Massillon Jaycees and Massillon Tiger Sideliners at the Massillon Italian American Club. The athletes were high school seniors, taking bows for a night for what they had accomplished as football players, before beginning those final steps toward graduation and adulthood. The questioner was one Fred Akers, the guest speaker for the event.

Akers came to the heart of football country from Purdue, where he is head coach of the Boilermakers. Before that he gained national prominence as boss of the Texas Longhorns for 10 years. In his entertaining and insightful address to the nearly 300 people in attendance, he stressed the key element in success — self-image.

Some students, Akers said as an example, remain C students because they think of themselves as C students.

"Every once in awhile a C student will foul up and get an A." But, instead of realizing he can be an A student, he figures he can "blow the next two tests and still get his C."

"Once you tell yourself you're a C student" or average in life, "you're going to be stuck with yourself," Akers said.

"Did you ever try to put a puzzle together without looking at the picture?" he asked, summarizing such a feat as just about impossible.

"It's the same with life. You must have a plan, a goal, a clear picture," he added, urging the athletes and everyone to set high goals and



L.C. Steffee/FOR THE INDE

**BEST OPPONENTS** — Honored Thursday night at the Massillon Jaycees-Massillon Tiger Sideliners Sportsmanship Award Banquet for their play against the 1987 Tigers were, from left: (front) Akron Garfield's Mike Gergosky, Cleveland St. Joseph's Desmond Howard, Akron St. Vincent-St. Mary's Mark Lenz, Austintown

Fitch's Mike Sztary; (back) Warren Harding's Steve Baugh, Barberton's Jim Ferguson, and Middletown's Tom Harkrader. Award-winners not at the banquet were Altoona's Doug Rosenberg, GlenOak's Greg Smith, and McKinley's Jeff Richardson.

create images that are positive and that nurture success.

"Make yourself personally accountable for your own success. ... You never get more than what you expect," he said.

When the football season first began, however, one Tiger didn't expect to see much playing time. But he must have a pretty good self-image, for he became a starting linebacker and was the second-

leading tackler on defense — Scott Sampsel. Thursday night the 5-10, 187-pounder was awarded the Jaycees' Bob Smith/Bill Snyder Award for his success on the field.

Craig York, the 6-2, 174-pound receiver and defensive back, was awarded the Lee Tressel Citizenship Award, sponsored by the Sideliners.

Jim Tressel, head coach at Youngstown State University,

helped introduce the award, presented for accomplishments on and off the gridiron. Tressel said his family is honored that the award is named for his late father, the former Baldwin-Wallace coach who was in charge of the Tigers when the Sideliners were founded.

Seven of the 10 athletes, one from each Tiger opponent, were present for the banquet. Only Altoona, Pa., tackle Doug Rosenberg was not represented.

SIDELINERS

HISTORY  
1987



# Jaycees to honor Tiger foes

Jim Tressel, son of former Massillon Tiger head football coach Lee Tressel, will be the main speaker Dec. 7 at the Jaycee-Sideline Sportsmanship Awards Banquet at the Italian-American Club.

The banquet will honor the top player from the opposing team in each of the Tigers' 1988 football games.

The public is invited. Tickets are \$12 in advance and can be purchased at Goodnight Sunoco, Tim's Place and the Washington High ticket office.



Tressel

Tickets will cost \$15 at the door.

Opponents to be honored include Jim Remedio of Cuyahoga Falls, David Berardinelli of Altoona, Butch Mochilov of Barberton, Brady Renners of Fairfield, Derick Fletcher of Austintown-Fitch, David Houston of Akron St. Vincent-St. Mary, Clayton Waite of Warren Harding, Elvin Caldwell of Cleveland-St. Joseph, Austin Robbins of H.D. Woodson and Robert Mitchell of McKinley.

The late Lee Tressel is known nationally for his coaching successes in Massillon and later at Baldwin-Wallace College.

Jim chose his father's profession and in 1986 got his "break" when he was named head coach at Yoing-

stown State University. Jim's first YSU team went 2-9, but the 1987 edition went 8-3 and qualified for the NCAA Division I-AA playoffs.

This year's team got off to a 1-4 start but has rallied to win three of its last five and owns a 4-6 record heading into the season finale Saturday against potent Marshall.

One of Tressel's top running backs is Leo Hawkins, who won a Sportsmanship Award in Massillon for his play against the Tigers in 1986. Hawkins has rushed 504 yards at 5.9 a carry.

Tressel's top kick return man is Perry graduate Archie Herring who has brought back 19 kicks an average of 28.6 yards.



CLASS — Honored guests Wednesday at the Massillon Jaycees/Massillon Tiger Sideliners Sportsmanship Award Banquet were, from left, Cuyahoga Falls' Tim Remedio, Barberton's Butch Mochilov, Fairfield's

Brady Renners, St. Vincent-St. Mary's David Houston, Warren Harding's Clayton Waite, McKinley's Robert Mitchell, Mrs. Katie Basler and Tiger David Ledwell and Jeff Harig. Ramon Francisco/FOR THE I

## Tiger banquet all about class

By DENNY HIGHBEN  
Independent Sports Writer  
Jim Tressel mentioned "class" Wednesday night at the 36th annual Massillon Jaycees/Massillon Tiger Sideliners Sportsmanship Award Banquet.

Class, as in respect yourself and life enough to do your best.

His message was profoundly simple. Regardless of what may befall you, "They can't take away your class."

The banquet, to honor those 1988 Tiger opponents whose class on the gridiron stood out like a beacon on a hill, is the epitome of class. As Tiger head coach Lee Owens said in thanking the sponsors of the events, who else honors their opponents?

In addition to honoring to the young men who performed so well against Massillon, special awards were presented to three Tigers: Jeff Harig, David Ledwell and Katie Basler.

Through their lifelong love and support of the young men who have represented Massillon, Maurice and Katie Basler proved themselves to be the class of all Tiger fans. Mr. Basler passed away before the first game this season, and the Tigers dedicated that game to him.

Wednesday night, coach Owens presented Mrs. Basler with an autographed game ball. It was a touching moment for all in attendance, and Mrs. Basler was given a

standing ovation.

Ledwell, the hard-hitting senior linebacker, earned the Bob Smith-Bill Snyder Award.

Harig, an honor roll student who was a team co-captain as the starting tight end, received the Lee Tressel Citizenship Award.

It was a night that the uniqueness of Massillon's rich gridiron tradition shined in classy fashion. Jim Tressel, the head football boss at Youngstown State University, was the guest speaker. The award Harig received is named after Tressel's father, who coached the Tigers before moving on to Baldwin Wallace College. The Tiger Sideliners was started during Tressel's seasons here.

Tressel, as he explained why loves Northeastern Ohio, recalled his childhood in Massillon and referred to Mrs. Basler as "second mom."

John Cistone, the coach who Akron St. Vincent-St. Mary to a victory in Tiger Stadium and to a Division III state championship, received a standing ovation. With it was Jim Houston. That's a name closely linked to Tiger lore Brown. Jim came home to see son, St. Vincent-St. Mary quarterback David Houston, be one of Massillon's honored foes.

**HISTORY**  
**1988**

**SIDELINERS**



1988  
INACTIVE TIGER SIDELINER

1. ALHSTROM, DON 730 Phillips Rd., N.E. 832-2621

2. BASLER, MAURIE 1734 Jefferson, N.E. 832-5229

3. BERBARI, JIM 7706 Heatherview, N.W. 833-1351

4. BLACKMER, GARY 211 - 15th St., N.W. 833-1670

5. BUNTING, BEN 5557 Perry Hills Dr., S.W., Canton 44706 477-4772

6. BODIFORD, CLINTON 1623 Bramblewood Cir., N.W. 833-5247

7. BUSHMAN, BOB 120 -24th St., NW 833-1621

8. COEN, EARL 2523 Valleywood, N.E. 832-2391

9. CUNNINGHAM, JOEL 1167 Lennox, N.E. 833-4709

10. DAVID, PAUL 8000 Freedom, N.W., North Canton 44720

11. DERR, DICK 7136 Knight, N.W. 832-8022

12. DERROY, CHUCK 36 - 7th St., S.W. 837-5128

13. DURANT, GARY 3001 List, N.W. 832-3170

14. EDIE, VIRGIL 2307 Carlene, S.W. 833-4445

15. ELUM, PHIL 901 Burd, N.E. 833-7949  
833-4141

16. ERTLE, BILL 7135 Knight, N.W. 832-5118

17. GESSNER, DICK 1705 - 11th St., N.E. 833-6810

18. GIBSON, DENNIS 2048 Hickory, N.E. 832-3058

19. FULLER, LARRY 1309 Kenyon, S.W. 833-3028

20. HILL, JACK 5037 Vivienda Way, Sarasota, Fl. 33580-8241-letter returned  
(1735 Milton, N.E.)?? marked unknown

21. HOLMES, RUSS 1001 - 32nd St., N.W. 833-5344

22. IMMEL, R.M. 741 Main Ave., N.W. 832-3427

23. KENNEDY, JEFF 3760 Riviera, N.W. 833-4348

24. KERTES, JOE 1058 Brookwood, N.E. 833-7581  
493-1800

25. KEYES, MIKE 1729 Dexter, N.W. 837-3913  
832-9801  
833-3515

26. KILWAY, BOB 748 Earl Rd., N.W. 832-2456

27. KNIGHT, DUANE 811 Woodview, N.E. 484-2266

28. KOSTIC, JOE 6535 East Sparta Ave. - Apt. 4  
East Sparta, Oh 44626 832-0836

29. KRABILL, IVAN 1933 Tennyson Ave., N.E. 832-1584



1988  
INACTIVE TIGER SIDELINER

30.	LAWRENCE, DON	134 - 12th St., N.E.	
31.	MATTHEWS, HOWARD	1949 Colonial Parkway, N.E.	833-7970
32.	MELDRUM, TOM	2923 Winrich, N.W. ?	833-1339
33.	MULBACH, JOHN	P. O. Box 705, Massillon 44648	833-9594 832-1556
34.	MOKROS, TOM	2317 Colonial Parkway, N.E.	833-2181
35.	PIATKO, GARY	1042 Oakhill Dr., N.E.	833-6792
36.	RADTKE, RICK	1705 Mohican, S.E.	837-1401
37.	REICHEL, RICHARD	1972 Wales Rd., N.E.	832-1391
38.	RENNER, DALE	7145 Lutz Ave., N.W.	854-3344
39.	RINEHART, DON	417 Lake Ave., N.E.	837-3156
40.	SAUERS, BOB	1305 - 10th St., N.E.	837-6616
41.	SNIVELY, JIM	1827 Coventry, N.E.	833-0952
42.	SORG, WALT	P. O. Box 705 - Massillon 44648	832-9689 832-1556
43.	STUDER, JUNIE	315 - 3rd St., N.W.	833-5227 833-8635
44.	THRONBERRY, JEFF	738 Rotch, N.E.	832-4010
45.	WATTS, JOHN	436 - 16th St., N.E.	832-8538
46.	WEBER, JIM	166 - 24th St., N.W.	833-0384
47.	WHISLER, RON	1417 - 11th St., N.E.	832-6717 833-2875
48.	WELTICH, GARY	6140 Blacklick Eastern Rd., Pickerington, Oh 43142	
49.	WILSON, DAVE	1765 Huron, S.E.	
50.	YOST, STEVE	1004 Yale, N.E.	832-5767
51.	YUND, BOB	205 First St., N.W.	837-9358



# Tigers, foes shake hands

By STEVE DOERSCHUK  
Independent Sports Editor

Driving 60 miles to greet a room full of strangers wasn't something Mark Ruddy had to do.

But it was, he said, something he wanted to do. He wanted to accept his award presented by the local Jaycees and Sideliners as the best player on his team the night they took on the Massillon Tigers in 1989.



Hill



Dixon

Ruddy, in the words Massillon offensive coordinator Tom Stacy used during the 37th annual Sportsmanship Awards Banquet, "was the best player we faced all season."

High praise, but why not? Ruddy made All-Ohio for the best team in the state, the one that beat Cincinnati Moeller two Sundays ago in the Division I state championship game — the one ranked No. 1 in the nation in Tuesday's *USA Today*.

There were a few players picked to be honored Thursday who did not make the long trip to Massillon. Ruddy, on the other hand, thought it important that he attend for, well, the sportsmanship of it.

"One reason I came was because there was some bad press directed toward Massillon after our game," said Ruddy, a 6-foot-3, 190-pound wide receiver and defensive back. "I didn't think it was fair."

Ruddy referred to a *Cleveland Plain Dealer* column by Bill Living-

■ See HANDS, Page 10



## Hands...

From Page 9

ston that was less than complimentary to the Massillon program and fans.

"The fact Massillon puts on this kind of banquet, honoring the opponents, shows what kind of class the town has," said Ruddy, who was accompanied by Ignatius head coach Chuck Kyle. "We know Massillon is a place with great tradition. We know it's a great football town."

Ruddy spoke in the back of a crowded room just before dinner was served. A tall young man spotted him and approached. Their eyes met and they smiled.

"You Ruddy?" said the tall young man.

It was Rameir Martin, Massillon's All-Ohio wide receiver. He and Ruddy shook hands and had a nice chat.

There's a listing for sportsmanship in the dictionary. But this scene seemed to paint the definition better than any book could.

Other honorees in attendance were defensive back Todd Dean of GlenOak, linebacker Steve Shackelford of Youngstown East, quarterback John Hale of North Central Indianapolis, linebacker Vince Palko of Akron St. Vincent-St. Mary, quarterback Ryan Henry of McKinley and wide receiver Thomas Lewis of Akron Garfield.

Honored but not present were running backs Jeff Cothran of Middletown and Carlos Collins of Cincinnati Moeller, quarterback Jeff Wilkins of Austintown-Fitch, Lavante Warfield of Warren Harding and fullback Steve Clark of Cleveland St. Joseph.

Some of these players have a chance to be stars in college.

Observed Stacy, "In the words of one of our coaches, if I was a college recruiter, I'd be living on Mark Ruddy's doorstep."

A 3.8 student, Ruddy didn't list any traditional football powers among his preferences. He said he is weighing Boston College, Northwestern, Villanova and Virginia.

Garfield's Lewis, Massillon defensive coordinator Dan Boarman said, looms as one of the hottest Division I recruits in the state.

Collins, meanwhile, isn't available to the college boys yet. The man who gained a record 322 rushing yards against the Tigers is a junior.

"It almost makes me choke when I think about it," Boarman said. "Hopefully, we'll get a crack at Carlos next year."

Massillon also honored two of its own.

Senior co-captain Lamonte Dixon accepted the Bob Smith-Bill Snyder Memorial Sportsmanship Award.

"I'd like to thank all my teammates, my coaches and my mother and father," the senior running back said as he humbly accepted the honor in front of the big crowd.

The Lee Tressel Citizenship Award was then presented to senior center Nick Hill.

"I'd like to thank all our coaches for giving me the opportunity to play center at 150 pounds," said Hill, who confesses his actual weight is 15 pounds below the program listing of 165.

The guest speaker was Indiana Hoosiers head coach Bill Mallory.



## *Meeting of the All-Ohioans*

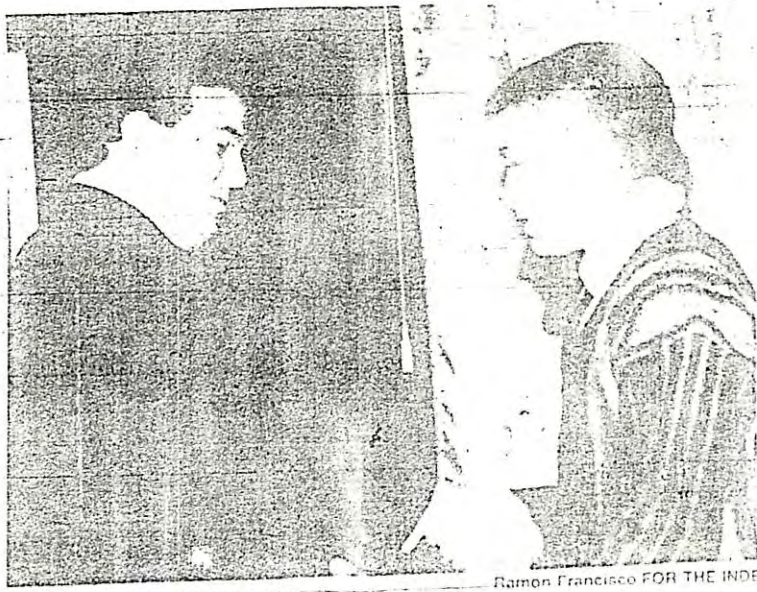


Last week's Jaycees-Sideliners Sportsmanship Awards banquet gave a chance for Massillon Tigers Rameir Martin, left, and Joe Pierce, center, to say hello to Cleveland St. Ignatius' Mark Ruddy. Massillon and Ignatius dueled recently in the state football semifinals. Shortly after the 'Wildcats' victory in that

game, Ruddy and Martin both were named to the first unit of the Associated Press All-Ohio team. Ruddy, Pierce and Martin all play basketball and are off to good starts in that sport. The Tiger cagers are 4-1. Ruddy helped Ignatius upset 1989 state runner-up Cleveland St. Joseph last week.



# SIDELINERS



JAYCEE HONOREE — Bob Berquist, president of the Massillon Jaycees, presents the Bob Smith-Bill Snyder Memorial Award to Massillon Tiger senior Scott Karrenbauer Wednesday night.

The Sideliners present a Citizenship Award named after Lee Tressel, who was Massillon's coach in the late 1950s when their organization was formed. This year's recipient was center Gary Miller.

"I really enjoyed playing for Massillon," Miller said. "I guess it's one thing every kid dreams about in Massillon. I also want to thank my parents. At one point I almost quit. They gave me support and encouragement and I stayed with it." Miller also thanked his grandfather, for-

■ TIGERS, Page 16

## *Tigers...*

mer Massillon school superintendent Lou Young, who played against Michigan as an Ohio State center in the 1930s, long before there was a Cincinnati Moeller High or a Michigan coach named Moeller.

1990

**MASSILLON JAYCEES  
and  
MASSILLON TIGER SIDELINERS**  
38th Annual Sportsmanship  
Awards Banquet

December 5, 1990                      Dinner 6:30 PM

Guest Speaker - Gary Moeller  
Head Coach - University of Michigan  
Massillon Moose Lodge #481  
2935 Lincoln Way W. - Massillon, Ohio  
Tickets \$15.00

177

NO



# Tigers Orr, Mossides receive nod from Jaycees, Sideliners

By MIKE KEATING  
Independent Sports Writer

Bill Curry played professional football in the National Football League and currently coaches major college football at the University of Kentucky.

On Wednesday night, however, Curry was in Massillon for an event that honors high school football players.

"I'm proud," Curry told the crowd, "to be invited to the

'cradle' of high school football."

Curry was keynote speaker at the 39th annual Massillon Jaycees and Tiger Sideliners' Sportsmanship Awards Banquet before a packed house at the Italian-American Club.

Two members of the 1991 Tigers received special awards. Ryan Orr, the starting strong guard, was given the Bob Smith-J.W. "Bill" Snyder Memorial Award.

Nick Mossides, who quarterbacked the Division I semifinalists, received the Lee Tressel Citizenship Award.

What separates this banquet from the traditional post-season ceremony is the acknowledgement of a player from each of the Tiger football foes in the recently completed season.

The Independent, Thursday, December 12, 1991 B-1



**TIGERS HONORED** — The Massillon Jaycees and the Massillon Tigers Sideliners held their annual year end Sportsmanship Awards Banquet Wednesday night. Sideliners Chairman Clarence Rambaud, left, presents the Lee Tressel Citizenship Award to Tigers quarterback Nick Mossides. Jaycees President Bob Berquist, right, hands offensive guard Ryan Orr the Bob Smith — J.W. "Bill" Snyder Memorial Award.





**ROSE READY** — Jack Rose tells the crowd McKinley is in for a fight during a Tiger Booster Club rally this week.

# HISTORY

## 1992

### SIDELINERS

# Tigers' Dottavio,

# Reed tapped

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By **STEVE DOERSCHUK**  
Independent Sports Editor

Two tough Tigers were toasted Wednesday night at the Italian-American Club.

Offensive lineman Chris Dottavio and linebacker Jake Reed took a bow at the 40th Massillon Jaycees/Tiger Sideliners Sportsmanship Awards Banquet.

Dottavio, who fought his way back from murderous knee surgery called "the terrible triad," received the Sideliners' Citizen-Athlete Award.

Reed, who handled linebacking chores in a defensive back's body, won the Jaycees' Bob Smith-J.W. "Bill" Snyder Memorial Award.

Also honored was the player from each Tiger opponent judged to have been his team's MVP in the game against Massillon.

Guest speaker was University of Kansas head coach Glen Mason. Mason was head coach at Kent State when one of his assistants was Jack Rose. Dottavio had played under Rose for Massillon this past season.

Rose had high praise for each young man. "Chris demonstrated tremendous dedication and perseverance," Rose said.

Dottavio missed most of what would have been his senior season, 1991, after suffering a major knee in-

jury. He stuck with a tedious rehabilitation program and was allowed to play again in 1992 because the injury knocked him out of the classroom as well as off the field.

"A lesser person wouldn't have made it back," Rose said. "Chris had a real impact on a lot of other guys who saw how hard he worked. He didn't make it back 100 percent physically, but he played hard. He competed hard. I can't say enough about him."

Reed was listed in the Tiger press guide at 5 feet, 160 pounds.

## Sportsmanship Awards Banquet

Observed Rose, "God cheated him in size, but he didn't cheat him in the size of his heart. He was a special kid. You never got cheated on Jake Reed's effort. He was a leader. He was tenacious."

Reed, a "stud outside linebacker," gave special thanks to his position coach, Tim Ridgley. Responded Ridgley, "Jake's a special kid. When he gets into something, he dedicates himself to it. He's in a choir and he had a choir commitment tonight that caused him to get to this banquet late. He wasn't going to go back on his commitment."



Of the 10 opposing MVPs invited to the banquet, six attended.

Not present was Alliance's representative, senior lineman Timiko Payton, but Rose can still picture him quite easily.

"He was probably the best defensive lineman we faced all year. He had such intensity. He was dominant on defense."

Austintown-Fitch fullback Shawn Kamrad also caught Rose's eye.

"He was probably the *toughest* running back we faced. He was like a man possessed. We hit him with some shots but he didn't wear down."

Kamrad attended the banquet.

Responding to Rose's remark about how he gave the Tigers a tough time, Kamrad reciprocated. "To be honest with you," he said, "I'm glad I'm done with Massillon."

# HISTORY

## 1992

### SIDELINERS



Massillon Tigers Sportsmanship Award winners Jake Reed (left), Chris Dottavio



## Tiger opponents honored for their individual efforts

### STAFF REPORT

They played at different schools in different parts of the state. One individual played for a school outside the state, and the country.

All of them played against Massillon this fall. All of were recognized for their individual efforts.

Alliance's Joe Brady, Grove City's Shawn Lacy, Akron Garfield's Antonio Winfield, Mansfield's Charles Fountain and Chioke Bradley, Austintown Fitch's Jason Kokoski, North Park Canada's Trevor Jones, Youngstown Rayen's Jason Jennings, Akron St. Vincent-St. Mary's Tim Flynn, Youngstown East's Leartis Day, McKinley's Denell Harris and Walsh Jesuit's Todd Riddle were the 12 players of Massillon opponents singled out for their efforts at the 41st annual Massillon Jaycees/Tiger Sideliners Sportsmanship Awards Banquet Thursday night at the Italian American Club.

Two Massillon players also were presented individual awards. Running back Ali Dixon was given the Citizen/Athlete Award and receiver/defensive back Eddie Griffith received the Bob Smith/Bill Snyder Sportsmanship Award.

Dixon and Griffith were part of Jack Rose's second Massillon team that was a regional finalist, compiling a 10-2 record.

They played against the aforementioned talent that were on teams that met the Tigers on the gridiron in 1993.

Brady, a 6-foot-1, 200-pound senior, passed for 108 yards and averaged nearly 35 yards a punt for Alliance, but is wasn't enough as the Tigers won the opener 40-6.

Lacey, a 5-11, 218-pound fullback, powered his way for 74 rushing yards, but Grove City was clubbed in the second half of the second game of the season, losing 42-10.

Akron Garfield met Massillon the third week, featuring its traditional fullhouse backfield. Winfield, a 5-9, 175-pound left halfback, amassed 76 rushing yards, but the Tigers won 28-7.

Fountain, a 5-8, 170-pound tailback, scored three touchdowns for Mansfield against the Tigers in the first of two meetings. His third score

on a 66-yard run sliced Massillon's lead to 27-22 in the third quarter. Fountain finished with 121 yards rushing, but Massillon scored 26 fourth-quarter points and won 53-22.

Kokoski, a 5-11, 232-pound two-way-right tackle, was a focal point of the two lines for hard-nosed Austintown Fitch, which led Massillon 15-8 late in the first half before the Tigers rallied for a 34-15 victory.

North Park, Canada was a decisive underdog in its first game against Massillon in Paul Brown Tiger Stadium, but the Trojans led briefly, 3-0. Jones, 5-11, 185, gave North Park its only points in a 61-3 loss with a 38-yard field goal.

Herman Benson, the highly-touted running back for Youngstown Rayen, went down with a season-ending injury one week before the Massillon game. Jason Jennings filled the void and rushed for 52 yards against the Tigers, albeit his team lost 62-0.

Tim Flynn, a 6-1, 190-pound defensive end, was a presence for Akron St. Vincent-St. Mary, which gave Massillon a scare early in the third quarter before the Tigers recovered and rolled 42-7. He is only a junior and has another chance to play the Tigers, since the two schools are under contract for 1994.

Leartis Day, 5-8, 160, the quarterback for Youngstown East, is similar in physical stature to Massillon signal caller Mike Danzy. Day threw a touchdown pass in the first quarter and was a good scrambler, but East was an easy victim for the Tigers, losing 63-6.

Denell Harris, 6-1, 200, was a three-year letter winner for McKinley, which handed the Tigers a 21-13 defeat, squelching Massillon's chances for its first undefeated regular season since 1982. Harris hurt the Tigers on both sides of the ball, rushing for 101 yards and scoring a touchdown out of field goal formation, and making countless tackles from his middle linebacker position.

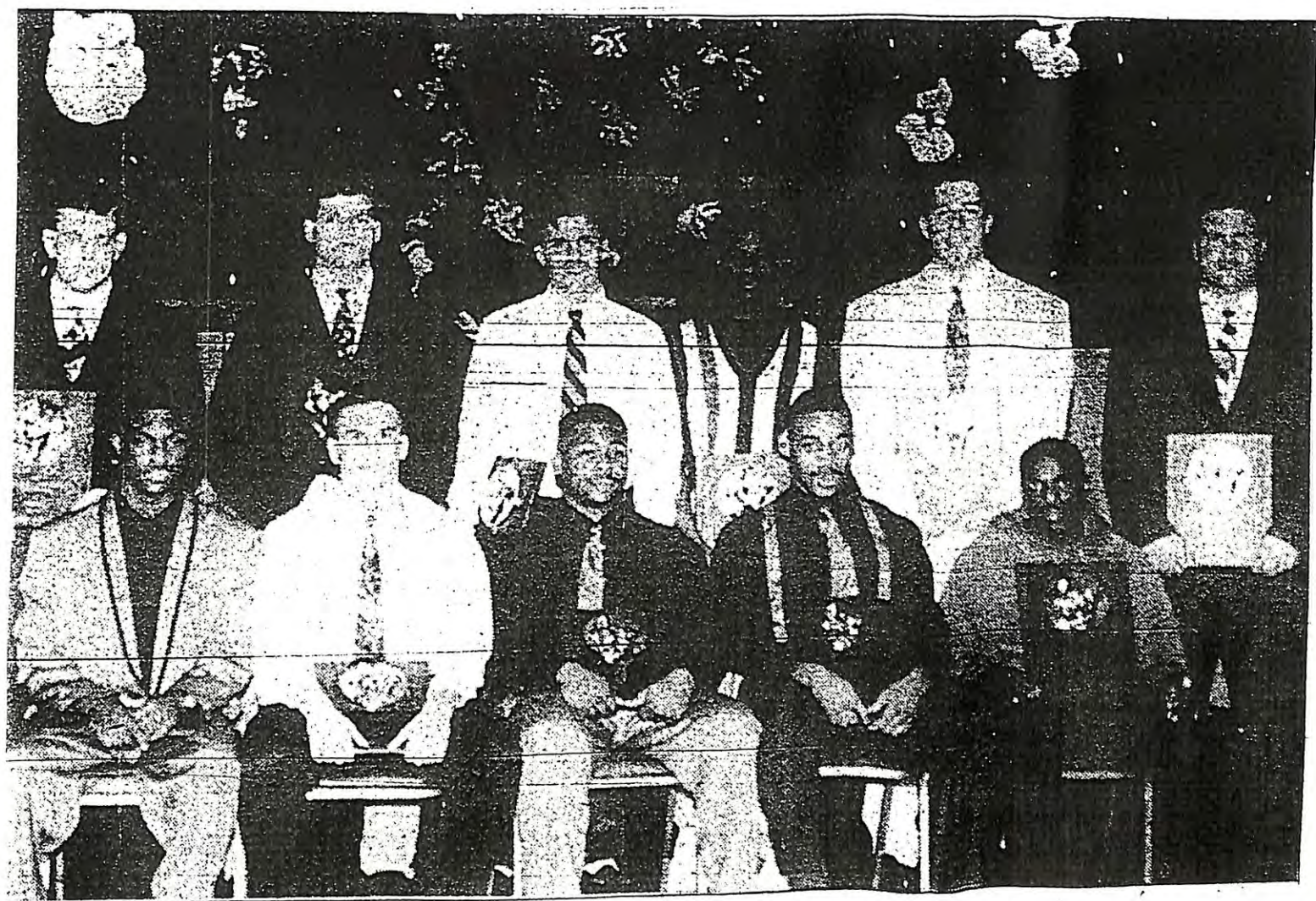
Fleet-footed Chioke Bradley, 6-0, 190, was a bright beacon in Mansfield's gloomy 46-6 playoff loss to the Tigers.

See **OPPONENTS**, Page B-4



# SIDELINERS

1993

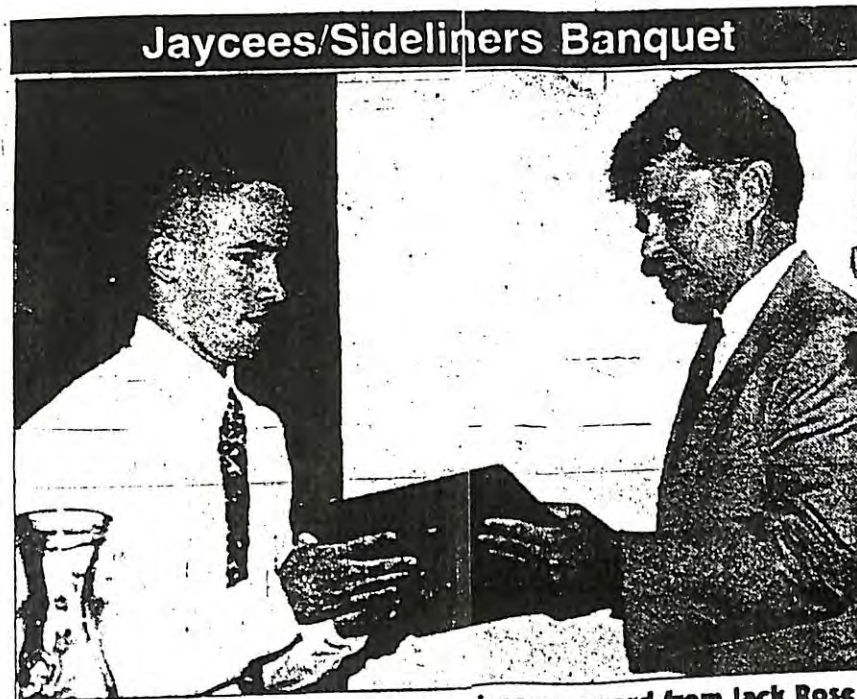


**SIDELINER WINNERS** — These players were honored at the banquet Thursday night. From left to right, FRONT, Antoine Winfield (Garfield), Joe Brady (Alliance), Jason Jennings (Youngstown Rayen), Denell Harris (McKinney), Charles Fountain (Mansfield), BACK, Shawn Lacy (Grove City), Tim Flynn (St.V-M), Eddie Griffith (Massillon), Ali Dixon (Massillon), Todd Riddle (Walsh), and Jason Kokoski (Austintown Fitch).



# Blackney to Tigers: 'Never be satisfied'

SIDELINERS  
1994



McKinley QB Josh McDaniels receives an award from Jack Rose

By MIKE KEATING

Independent Sports Writer

Gary Blackney was coached by Lou Holtz. He coached for Earle Bruce. He currently runs his own collegiate football program.

His life has been influenced by football coaches, but some words of advice offered to a group of high school gridgers came from American botanist George Washington Carver, a man credited for discovering the peanut.

"George Washington Carver said, 'Take what you have, make the most of it, and never be satisfied,'" said Bowling Green head football coach Gary Blackney.

Blackney was the guest speaker at a special event, the 42nd annual Jaycees/Sideliners Sportsmanship Award Banquet held in the Italian/American Club.

Blackney has worked with former Massillon football players Chris Spelman (when he tutored linebackers at Ohio State), and Erik White, Rameir Martin and Jason Woullard at Bowling Green.

A player has to be physically tough to handle the pounding that occurs in college football. Blackney's speech focused on the need for mental toughness.

"You are what you think you are — it's a self-fulfilling prophecy," he said. "Achievement starts with a dream that is crystallized into a vision and goals are set."

Twelve gridgers from opposing teams made lasting impressions with Rose. Only Trotwood-Madison running back Howard

SEE NEXT PAGE



# SIDELINERS 1994

Lankford was a no-show.

The opposing players were presented plaques, with capsule comments by Rose:

■ **Hilles Jeffries, Youngstown Rayen quarterback:** "He showed excellent poise and leadership. He accounted for 75 percent of his team's offense against us."

■ **Lankford, Trotwood-Madison running back:** "He had over 200 yards of total offense against us."

■ **Antoine Winfield, Akron Garfield two-way back:** "He plays the game the way I like to see it played. He enjoys it and plays hard every down. He was (Division I) Defensive Player of the Year. He got the (Sideliners) award last year, but he's a senior, so he won't get it next year."

■ **Deondre Jones, Mansfield quarterback:** "He did a better job running their option offense than their quarterback did the year before, and he had only one year playing the position."

■ **Mike Stanec, Austintown Fitch fullback and outside linebacker:** "He had 140 yards rushing against us and some big quarterback sacks. He personifies a typical Fitch football player with his toughness."

■ **Mike Blake, Barberton center and defensive tackle:** "He probably was the best center we faced. He also made a number of tackles against us for minus yards."

■ **Bill Brandt, Cuyahoga Falls quarterback:** "He converted 10 of

■ See **TIGERS**, Page B-5

## *Tigers ...*

plays against us. He also didn't turn the ball over against us."

■ **George Cameron, Alliance fullback and linebacker:** "He had an outstanding game against us. They even put him at quarterback and ran the option, so he could get to the perimeter."

■ **Andre Knott, Akron St. Vincent-St. Mary halfback:** "He's the only junior who was selected. He had a fine all-around game."

■ **Kinta Mitchell, McKinley fullback and linebacker:** "He's one of the top linebackers in the state. He played with heart and enthusiasm."

■ **Charles Woodson, Fremont Ross tailback, safety and Ohio's Mr. Football:** "He looked unstoppable on grass; he was unstoppable on turf. He had 231 yards rushing."

■ **Josh McDaniels, McKinley quarterback:** "He made good decisions. He got out of trouble. He knows how to get rid of the ball. He audibled a lot."

Two Massillon players also were honored. Linebacker Heath Manson was presented the Jaycees Bob Smith/"Bill" Snyder Memorial Award for sportsmanship. Defensive back Jason Manson received the Sideliners Lee Tressel Citizenship Award.



# Carr asserts Bucks were ready to go

By MIKE KEATING

Independent Sports Writer

Lloyd Carr motored down to Massillon from Ann Arbor to talk some football, Thursday.

Carr, the second-year head coach of the Michigan Wolverines, was the guest speaker at the Massillon Tiger Sideliners 44th Annual Sportsmanship Awards banquet attended by approximately 400 at the AMVETS.

Since 1980, Carr has been a football coach at Michigan. He was secondary coach and defensive coordinator under feisty Bo Schembechler for 10 years, then was assistant head coach to Gary Moeller from 1990-94, before he was elevated.

His two-year record is 17-7, subpar by Michigan standards. But he is 2-0 against Ohio State, denying the Buckeyes shots at undefeated seasons both times.

Since John Cooper has been Ohio State head coach, Michigan has dominated the series, posting a 7-1-1 record.

"I can't explain our success," said Carr. "I know I've been on

our sidelines when we've had some long days against Ohio State."

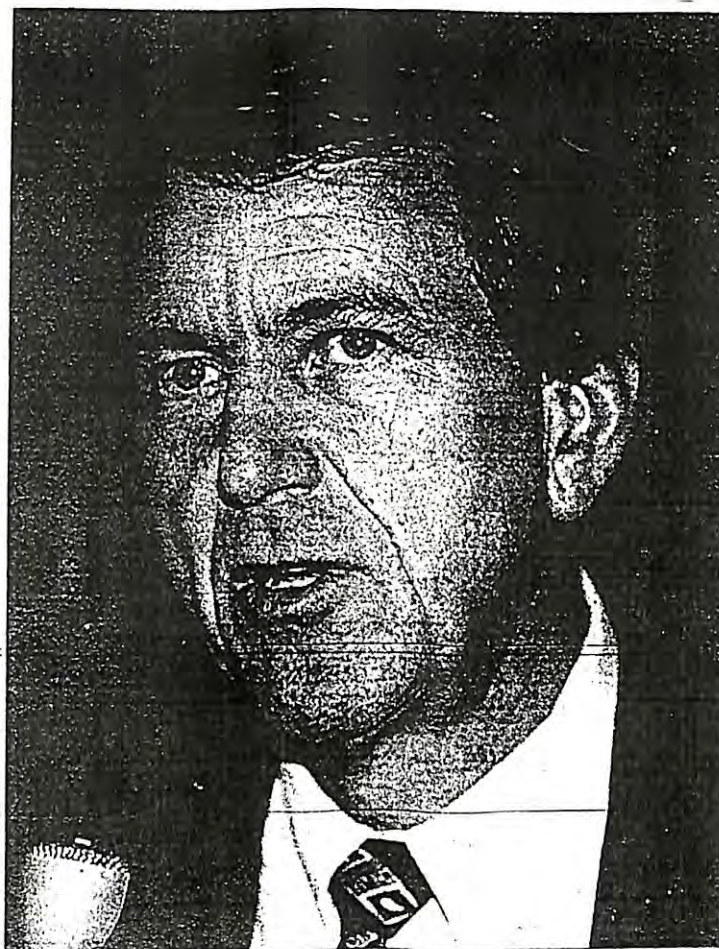
Cooper bashers claimed he didn't have the Buckeyes revved up to a football-crazed mentality and Michigan beat a team that wasn't ready to play.

"I was standing on the sidelines and Ohio State was ready to play," Carr said. "Anybody who says otherwise should have been standing with me on the sidelines."

"Ohio State was playing very hard and playing well. The thing that helped us was we kept them out of the end zone. But Ohio State is still a good football team."

Carr is a Michigan man, with a keen sense of perspective about Ohio football. He worked for two native Buckeyes: Barberton native Schembechler and Lima's Moeller.

"There is tremendous high school coaching in Ohio," said Carr prior to the banquet. "The thing that impressed me about Ohio high school football is its tradition."



Michigan coach Lloyd Carr at Sideliners banquet, Thursday night

There also is a talent pool that Carr doesn't mind raiding.

"We have three coaches recruit Ohio," he said. "Stan Parish recruits Cleveland; Jim Herman recruits Cincinnati

and Brady Hoke also recruits Ohio. Football is important in this state and we are interested in Ohio players."

■ See CARR, Page B-4

By MIKE KEATING  
Independent Sports Writer

Jack Rose stood at the podium and smiled briefly at ten high school football players seated at nearby tables, acknowledging what thorns in the side they were to the Massillon Tigers this past season.

"We'll probably be seeing some of these kids on television on Saturday (playing college football) the next few years," said Rose, who recently completed his fifth season as Massillon head football coach.

Those 10 opposing players were formally recognized for their individual play during the Massillon Tigers Sideliners 44th Annual Sportsmanship Awards Banquet Thursday night before approximately 400 in the AMVETS.

Before each athlete took his turn at the podium, Rose briefly recalled what an impact he made against the Tigers.

Rose's comments on each player:

■ Doby Lantz, LB/RB, Mansfield Madison: "He was a very

good linebacker who hurt us on the inside."

■ William Bratton, RB, Lima Senior: "He was a strong physical back who carried 30 times and gained 173 yards. He had a great game against us and he came back and had another one (in the Division I playoff title game against Cleveland St. Ignatius.)"

■ Erick Hawkins, DL, Akron Garfield: "He was one of the best defensive linemen we faced the last two years. He stopped our off-tackle play."

■ Jeff Soliday, QB, Mansfield Senior: "He has a strong arm and he can run the option. He passed for 200 yards and two touchdowns against us."

■ Gary Evans, LB, Austintown Fitch: "He's only a junior and he's one of those typical hard-nosed kids who have played there. He played inside-linebacker and prevented us from getting the big play."

■ Tom LoPienski, RB, Walsh Jesuit: "He's the biggest tail-

■ See TIGERS, Page B-4

## SIDELINERS 1996

# Tigers, Rose tip their cap to best foes



## Tigers

back (6-3, 225 pounds) we've faced. He carried 17 times and gained 100 yards against us. We had four missed tackles on one play where he gained 27 yards."

■ **Ryan Murphy, LB, Cincinnati Moeller:** "He was the best linebacker we saw on the inside. We had a hard time blocking him. They have a lot of their guys back defensively, but he is the guy who anchored the unit."

■ **Tony Pierce, WR/DB, Akron St. Vincent-St. Mary:** "He made a lot of tackles from his free safety position and he also had a long catch. He read our offense well."

■ **Ben McDaniels, QB, McKinley:** "He showed poise and maturity for a sophomore quarterback. He completed 9 of 13 passes for 143 yards. He made three big pass plays for over 30 yards."

■ **Eric Damasin, OL/DL, Brunswick:** "He played with a lot of intensity. He spun away from our blocks. They ran over him on their winning drive."

Distance and the elements prevented perfect attendance. Jason Nolda, an outside linebacker and placekicker, from Naperville Central, Ill., was unable to make the banquet.

Two Massillon players also received awards given annually at the banquet: linebacker Bob Short and offensive lineman Steve Mendenhall. Short was given the Bob Smith-J.W. "Bill" Snyder Memorial Award and Mendenhall was presented the Lee Tressel Citizenship

Award, named in honor of the Massillon head coach in 1956-57

"Bob's position coach said he was toughest kid he coached in 14 years," praised Todd Schumacher of the Tiger Sideliners.

Tiger Sideliner Chairman Norm Jesser gave St. Vincent-St. Mary's Pierce a special award, acknowledging the contributions of retiring Irish head football coach John Cistone.

"He made his kids better football players," said Jesser. "More importantly, he made them better human beings."

Rose echoed similar sentiments about the Massillon Tiger Sideliners.

"They are the most influential support group we have for our players," he said. "They're like surrogate fathers and they're good role models."

Guest speaker Lloyd Carr, the second-year head coach of the Michigan Wolverines, appreciated being invited.

"This is the only banquet of its kind," he said. "It's a wonderful tradition."

## Carr

NCAA bylaws state coaches cannot talk about recruits until they officially sign in February, so Carr would not comment on Massillon three-year starting tackle Ben Mast's future as a Wolverine.

But Carr, a former Michigan player and high school coach, had fond memories of Massillon, dating back to a previous decade.

"I don't think anyone associated with high school football hasn't heard about Massillon and its tradition," he said. "I got a chance to come down here and see it when John Maronto was the head coach (1985-87)."

"I came down one day and coached in one of the summer camps. I got a chance to see the facilities.

"I remember the old gym at the high school. I understand they don't use it anymore, and that's too bad. That gym had a lot of tradition, just like Massillon has a lot of tradition."

For 17 consecutive seasons, Carr has been a part of one of the most tradition-rich college

football rivalries — Michigan vs. Ohio State.

He came to Michigan only a few years after Ohio State coach Woody Hayes had been fired from the job he held 28 seasons. Carr worked a decade for Schembechler, a Hayes' disciple.



# Best of Tiger foes are recognized

## *The Massillon Sideliners continue tradition at banquet Wednesday*

By CHRIS EASTERLING  
Independent Correspondent

Sticking with tradition, the Massillon Tigers Sideliners honored one player from each of the Tigers' 10 opponents Wednesday night at the 45th annual Sportsmanship Awards Banquet held at the AMVETS Club.

"This is a unique banquet," Massillon coach Jack Rose said. "We've done this for many years, and you can see that there have been a lot of very, very good players here. The common thread through all of them is that those guys all played extremely well against the Tigers, and they played the game the way we like to see it played."

Among some of the past honorees include Cleveland St. Joseph and Michigan standout and eventual Heisman Trophy winner Desmond Howard

(1987), former Kansas City Chief and Canton McKinley star Percy Snow (1985), one-time Akron Garfield and current Ohio State All-Big Ten defensive back Antoine Winfield (1993 and '94) and Fremont Ross two-way star and current Michigan Heisman Trophy candidate Charles Woodson (1994).

The following players were chosen for the honor that is based on sportsmanship and performance on the field this fall against the Tigers:

■ DuJuan Crockett, Cardozo (Washington, D.C.). Only a sophomore, Crockett impressed Rose with his ability, even though the Tigers rolled to a lopsided win.

"He's going to be a very, very good player for them in the next few years," Rose said.

■ Joe Sellers, Lima Senior. It was obvious to the Massillon coaches what a talented defen-

sive back the senior was, but where Sellers surprised them was at running back. He scored a pair of touchdowns in the Spartans' Week Two win over the Tigers.

"He's an outstanding defensive back," Rose said. "The best compliment I can pay him is that he reminds me a lot of Antoine Winfield. He plays the game the same way he does, very aggressive and hard hitting."

■ Dale Knox, Akron Garfield. Knox was a thorn in the Tigers' side all evening, and partially the reason why the Rams remained close throughout. Knox finished with 116 yards on 14 attempts, including a long scoring run.

"He really did an outstanding job against us," Rose said. "He kind of personifies the way Akron Garfield plays football."

■ Jeremy Butts, Mansfield Senior. Butts, a junior, showed tremendous mobility, rushing for 43 yards. He also completed 10 of 20 passes for 162 yards.

"I really feel that he probably

SIDELINERS

1997

SEE NEXT PAGE



has Division I talent," Rose said. "He's really a fine football player."

■ Mike Reynolds, Austintown Fitch. A two-way player for the Falcons, Reynolds was the signal caller for the Fitch offense.

■ Dan Larlham, Walsh Jesuit. Larlham, one of the most mobile quarterbacks in the area, helped lead the Warriors into the Division III state semifinals, where they fell to eventual runner-up Youngstown Chaney.

In Walsh's 28-14 setback to Massillon, Larlham, a junior, accounted for about 80 percent of the Warrior offense, including an 11 for 18, 166-yard passing performance.

"He was very difficult to defend," Rose said. "We had to chase this guy all over the field. We went into the game knowing we had to stop the fullback (Notre Dame-bound Tom Lopinski) inside, but our biggest concern in this game was how to defend the perimeter with him (Larlham)."

■ Jerrit Marsh, Central Catholic. Marsh, a senior wide

## TIGER SIDELINERS SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD WINNERS

DuJuan Crockett, Cardozo  
 Joe Sellers, Lima Senior  
 Dale Knox, Akron Garfield  
 Jeremy Butts, Mansfield Senior  
 Mike Reynolds, Austintown Fitch  
 Dan Larlham, Walsh Jesuit  
 Jerrit Marsh, Canton Central Catholic  
 Ryan Cooper, Cincinnati Moeller  
 Nick Ross, St. Vincent-St. Mary  
 DeMarlo Rozier, Canton McKinley



receiver, impressed the Tigers with some nifty grabs, including a spectacular touchdown reception near the end of the first half. He finished with seven catches for 100 yards, and prompted Rose, a former receiver at Central in the 1960s, to exclaim, "You have probably the best hands of any receiver at Central since the mid-60s."

■ Ryan Cooper, Cincinnati Moeller. A quarterback, Cooper

led the Crusaders to the state title game, where they fell to Canton McKinley. In that game Cooper was hobbled by a serious injury, but still managed to play.

"He did a great job," Rose said. "He really showed a lot of courage in the state championship game, but he showed a lot of poise in directing his team to a comeback win against us."

■ See FOES, Page B-2



Lisa Berarducci/For the Inde  
 Lee Owens spoke at banquet

# Owens backs Rose

## University of Akron head coach discusses Massillon football at Sideliners banquet

By CHRIS EASTERLING  
 Independent Correspondent

As debate swirls around Jack Rose and his future as the head football coach at Massillon, he got a vote of support from another man who previously walked in his shoes along the sidelines at Paul Brown Tiger Stadium - University of Akron head coach Lee Owens.



Rose

Owens, who coached the Tigers from 1988-91, was in town Wednesday night to speak at the 45th annual Sportsmanship Awards Banquet held at the AMVETS Club. After

# SIDELINERS 1997

SEE NEXT PAGE



# OWENS

■ Akron coach speaks at banquet

spending a few minutes talking about his goal to bring a Mid-American Conference championship to Akron, the Zip grid boss threw his support squarely in the corner of the much-maligned Rose, whose contract is up this year.

There has been much speculation surrounding the six-year coach and athletic director and his future. Rumors abound he may end up at Kent State as an assistant once a new head coach is named there or that the Board of Education may simply choose not to rehire him.

"I love this town and I would love to see this team win a state playoff championship," Owens said. "I love what this football program stands for: this Sideliners group and the commitment they make to the young men. I do believe in Massillon Tigers football, and I believe in Coach Jack Rose."

Owens was quick to point out the positives Rose and the Tigers have accomplished in the last six years, including their first-ever victories over Cincinnati Moeller and three state playoff appearances.

"You look where this team has been," Owens said. "No Massillon team had ever gone to Austintown Fitch and found a way to win - he was the first. He led those Tigers. No Massillon team had ever beaten Cincinnati Moeller before Coach Rose, and he did it two years in a row, and he almost snuck out a third this year."

He also was sure to bring up arguably the biggest win in the Rose era, the 42-41 overtime win over Canton McKinley in 1994, the 100th game in that storied series. That win is Rose's lone victory against the Bulldogs.

"No coach had ever found a way to win what was probably the biggest game in the history of Massillon-McKinley, that 100th game," Owens said.

what, given enough time, he may even his record up against McKinley. I told (McKinley) Coach (Thom) McDaniels that he was never going to get a chance to even my record up."

Owens guided the Tigers to a 3-1 record against the McDaniels-coached Bulldogs, including the 42-13 rout in 1991, the year Massillon came within one point of the state championship game.

Owens also believes that Rose can help get a giant monkey off the back of Massillon - the absence of a state playoff championship. The Tigers played for a championship in both 1980 and 1982 when Mike Currence was head coach but have yet to win it all since the Ohio High School Athletic Association went to a playoff format in 1972.

Rose has guided a high school team to a playoff title, leading St. Thomas Aquinas to the Division IV championship in 1984. His 1985 team was playoff runner-up to Cincinnati Academy of Physical Education. Ironically, Owens guided Galion to the Division II championship that same year.

While Owens came up short in fulfilling his goal of bringing Massillon a state title in his four-year stint as head coach. He believes his successor can get the job done.

"Coach Rose is the right guy to do it," said Owens, who led the Tigers to playoff berths in 1989-91. "If there is enough people in this room, if there is enough people in this community that can convince him to stay here and give him the time he needs, he'll take a Tiger team to the playoff state championship."

As Rose was coming up to begin handing out the awards to the 10 athletes from the Tigers' 1997 opponents, he made a point to thank Owens for his kind words.

"I don't think I could have

# SIDELINERS

1997



## Sideliners honorees



TOM PRUSHA/The Inde

The Massillon Tiger Sideliners honored senior Tiger gridgers Dustin Clawson (left) and Al-ian Lynch at the 46th annual Sportsmanship Awards Banquet, Wednesday evening. Clawson received the Bob Smith-J.W. "Bill" Snyder Memorial Award, while Lynch received the Lee Tressel Citizenship Award.



By **JOE SHAHEEN** were honored at the banquet, Independent Sports Editor senior nose guard Mike Mattox and senior fullback Jon Stanke.

two pieces of advice for the outstanding high school football players honored at the 47th annual Massillon Tiger Sideliners Sportsmanship Awards Banquet, Wednesday evening.

Pees, the featured speaker at the banquet, advised the senior gridders to be sure they do two things as they continue their life journey.

"Never stop saying thank you," Pees said. "You should thank your parents, your coaches, your teachers and the other players on your team. Take time to thank all of those folks who've helped you along the way because there's too much me in our society today."

"Do something with your life that makes a difference," Pees continued. "I took the job at Kent State because I wanted to go somewhere and make a difference."

Two difference-makers for the 1999 Massillon Tigers



**Mattox**  
*Smith-Snyder Award*

ing before a knee injury interrupted (but did not end) his campaign, was presented the Lee Tressel Citizenship Award.



**Stanke**  
*Lee Tressel Award*

Guthrie - Akron Garfield, Erik Dandy - Mansfield Senior

See **SIDELINERS**, Page C-4.

# SIDELINERS 1999

## Sideliners salute Mattox, Stanke

### ● SIDELINERS

nior, Sammy Mayes - Austintown Fitch, and David Rhodes - Fremont Ross.

Five other Sportsmanship Award winners were unable to attend the affair: Marcus Patton of Youngstown Chaney, Jordan Henning and Joe Shimek of Perry, Alphonso Hodge of Lakewood St. Edwards and Andre Hooks of McKinley.

"In 1983 Warren Western Reserve held a similar banquet, modeled after this affair," said Tigers coach Rick Shepas. "I felt so special that I was selected that I remember everything that took place that night."

"This is what makes Massillon a very special place." Then Shepas made a promise to the full house in the AMVETS banquet room.

"We will stay the course and provide the leadership to take this program where it needs to be," Shepas said.



# UK coach to speak at Sportsmanship banquet

By JOE SHAHEEN  
Independent Sports Editor

University of Kentucky head football coach Hal Mumme thought so much of Massillon Tiger quarterback Justin Zwick that he offered the junior a full ride football scholarship when Zwick and the Tigers attended Mumme's Air Raid Football Camp last summer.

Mumme will be in Massillon on Thursday evening, not to recruit Zwick, but to serve as guest speaker at the Massillon Sideliners Sportsmanship Banquet at AMVETS.

The Sportsmanship Banquet is an annual affair at which the Tigers recognize one player from each of their opponents this season, and single him out for his

sportsmanship on the gridiron and the way he played the game.

Each Massillon foe is contacted several weeks in advance of the event and one of their players invited to attend the banquet, during which that player will be introduced and will receive a plaque commemorating his selection.

The Sideliners will also present two awards to members of the 2000 Massillon Tigers, the Bob Smith/Bill Snyder Memorial Award and the Lee Tressel Citizenship Award.

Mumme certainly wouldn't mind returning to Lexington with a verbal commitment from Zwick. It would help



Mumme  
In town

See COACH, Page C-5

2000  
SIDELINERS

soften the sting of the Wildcats slumping to 2-9 this past season after gaining bowl berths in both 1998 and '99.

Kentucky might be attractive to Zwick inasmuch as the Wildcats reside in the high-profile Southeastern Conference and Mumme helped develop the talents of Tim Couch, the All-American quarterback who became the Cleveland Browns No.1 draft pick as well as the first player chosen overall in April of 1999.

Mumme, a native of San Antonio, Texas, is 85-35-1 in 12 seasons of collegiate coaching, beginning with a three-year stint at Iowa Wesleyan and continuing with a five-year stay at Valdosta State.

He was voted the Region 2 Coach of the Year by the American Football Coaches Association in 1997 for turning around a Kentucky program that was in disarray after the dismissal of Bill Curry as head coach.

In fact, the Kentucky attack, ranked 109th in the nation in total offense the year before, zoomed to No.6 in the country in 1997, Mumme's debut campaign at UK. Kentucky fashioned a 7-4 regular-season slate in '98, its best record since 1984.

Mumme led the Wildcats to back-to-back bowl games in '98 and '99, something accomplished only twice previously, in the 109-year history of the UK football program - by College Hall of Fame coaches Paul "Bear" Bryant and Jerry Claiborne.

Under Mumme, the Wildcats utilize a spread offense that features plenty of passing. It is the same philosophy that Massillon coach Rick Shepas has employed since taking over the Tigers in 1998.

The banquet will also feature the introduction and recognition of the Massillon Middle Schools All-City Football Team.

Tickets are \$20 and available at Stark Glass, 409 Erie St. North, or by calling them at 330-833-4175. Tickets include a steak dinner, dessert, and a beverage.

Doors open at 6 p.m. Dinner is at 7 p.m. and the program begins at 8 p.m.



# Tiger gridders, foes honored

By JOE SHAHEEN

Independent Sports Editor

Rick Shepas shook hands with a kindred spirit as he doled out awards at the 48th Annual Massillon Tiger Sideliners Sportsmanship Banquet.

The Tiger head coach was introducing the recipients of the Sportsmanship Award, presented each year to one member of each Massillon opponent for the way he plays the game of football and the manner in which he conducted himself while on the gridiron.

The last player to be introduced was Perry High's first team All-Ohio running back Eric Heinzer, who rushed for 195 yards and two touchdowns in the Panthers 31-17 victory over the Tigers last October.

"My respect for this young man grew after that game as much as when we were preparing to play Perry and the day of the game," Shepas said. "He was one of the first players I looked at afterward. He looked at me and we shook hands."

Shepas was on hand when Heinzer received the Stark County Player of the Year Award, and saw some of the same qualities in the Perry senior that he brought to the game during his high school days at Cardinal Mooney in

## SPORTSMANSHIP BANQUET

Youngstown. "You could see the passion in his heart and the fire in his eyes," Shepas said. "The goals he achieved, it all came up during his (acceptance) speech."

The Tiger mentor also handed trophies to a pair of Massillon seniors. Jared Frank, a strong safety who is being recruited by the Air Force Academy, is the recipient of the Bob Smith-J.W. "Bill" Snyder Memorial Award.

"This goes to a player who has to deal with a great deal of adversity to stay at the top of his craft," Shepas said, noting Frank had suffered a severe hamstring injury last spring and battled back to have a standout senior season.

The Lee Tressel Citizenship award went to Tyrell McElroy, a senior cornerback and kick returner who is expected to accept a full-ride scholarship offer from Kent State University.

"I got on Tyrell all the time because I thought he was spreading himself too thin with all of his activities," Shepas said. "But he told me he did not want to be remembered at Massillon just as

a football player." Other winners of the Sportsmanship Award were:

- Tim Murphy, Akron Buchtel
- Trenton Seay, Lima Senior
- Lawrence Cherry, Akron Garfield
- Mike Donaldson, Mansfield
- Brian Sudetic, Austintown Fitch
- Nate Szep, St. Ignatius
- Rick Legg, Fremont Ross
- Troy Smith, Lakewood St. Edward
- Chad Anderson, Canton McKinley
- Kyle Adams, Marion Harding

The guest speaker at the banquet was University of Kentucky head coach Hal Mumme, who told the audience student-athletes who reach the college level need to learn three things to be successful - how to give an honest effort, the ability to communicate, and loyalty.

"When I say an honest effort I mean you have to do the best you can possibly do, in the classroom, in the weight room or on the field," Mumme said.

"You need to communicate, but only with people who can help you reach your goals.

"Loyalty is just a bunch of petty tradeoffs you do to be part of the team. You have to be willing to do what it takes for the team to do well."

## SIDELINERS



The Daily Poll

Will the departure of the Xpress hockey franchise hurt Massillon's new civic center?

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OSU's Tressel comes back to his Massillon roots for Sideliner banquet

By Joe Shaheen Independent Sports Editor

Jim Tressel put the wraps on the final day of his first full year as head football coach at Ohio State University by serving as the keynote speaker at the 49th annual Massillon Tiger Sideliners Sportsmanship Awards Banquet at The Elks in downtown Massillon, Wednesday evening.

It was Tressel's father Lee who put the wheels in motion to form the Sideliners organization during his two-year stint as head coach of the Tigers in 1956 and 1957. Jim Tressel was about three-years old then but he remembers and he savors those memories.

"There is so much about this banquet that is running through my mind," Tressel said prior to his speech. "Massillon was home at one point. My dad had a lot to do with the beginnings of the Sideliners organization. The high school coaches who are here with their great athletes are guys that I have known for a long, long time. Some guys I've coached and some guys I've worked with.

"It is a reflective evening because this first year at Ohio State has been a fast one with a lot of ups and downs, both with where we are and in the world."

The Sportsmanship Banquet is unique in that it honors a player from each team the Tigers faced this season, a player who displayed the attribute of sportsmanship and honored the game of football with spirited play.

Also honored were Tiger junior cornerback Craig McConnell with the Bob Smith/J.W. "Bill" Snyder Memorial Award, and senior wide receiver Marquis Williams with the Lee Tressel Citizenship Award.

Massillon junior linebacker Shawn Crable was presented the WTIG Radio Defensive Player of the Year Award, while senior quarterback Justin Zwick received the Offensive Player of the Year Award.



NICE TO MEET YOU - Ohio State football coach Jim Tressel, far right, shakes the hand of McKinley coach John "Spider" Miller as Massillon coach Rick Shepas, middle, speaks with another guest at the Massillon Tigers Sideliners Sportsmanship Banquet, Wednesday evening at The Elks Club. Tressel was the keynote speaker of the event, which honors one player off each of the Tigers' past football opponents. (JAMES ZEMKO/The Inde)

SPO

Perry still k hill

Two more t powers line Massillon

Tiger duo c Toledo

Modell, Par 15 grid HOF

Ravens' Bill genius at w



It was Zwick's announcement in May he would attend Ohio State on a full ride football scholarship that got the ball rolling on what is being widely hailed as one of the top three recruiting classes in the entire nation.

As Tressel pointed out, his first class of recruits goes much deeper than the Tiger All-Ohio signal caller.

"We're excited about our entire recruiting class," Tressel said. "It wouldn't surprise me if a lot of those kids are able to help us next season. The biggest reason is it's such an intelligent group, at least the group we feel like we're going to have next fall. Their academics are outstanding. Their experiences in football are outstanding. Not that that makes the jump to Big Ten football any easier, but I'm excited about the prospects across the board."

In past seasons under the John Cooper coaching regime, the Buckeyes were roundly criticized for failing to keep Ohio's home-grown football prospects in their home state. That has not been a problem for Tressel in his first recruiting season.

"We're working hard and we won't really know anything until Feb. 6," hedged Tressel. "But I will affirm the fact it is a great year for senior football talent in Ohio and our coaching staff has been doing a great job of presenting the plusses of Ohio State to those kids. If it weren't Ohio State, maybe those youngsters would have waited around to see who else was calling on them."

For nearly a decade, Tressel was doing his recruiting as head coach at Division I-AA Youngstown State. He did it so well the Penguins became a national power, setting the stage for him to successfully apply for the Ohio State vacancy last winter.

But Tressel doesn't think it's that much easier selling Ohio State to a potential recruit as compared to Youngstown State.

"Things are relative," he explained. "There's great competition for recruiting at Ohio State. There are a lot of great schools in this country and the same is the case at whatever level you're at. Whether it's Youngstown State or wherever, there are a lot of great schools recruiting Ohio because it's such a tradition-rich high school football state.

"I haven't found it any harder or easier (to recruit at Ohio State) but it is a lot of fun because you're getting to know families, you're getting to know young people and getting to show them, 'Here's what we're about and here's how you'd fit in.'"

Tressel coached Tiger gridiron mentor Rick Shepas as well as Tiger assistant Frank Page at YSU. He reflected on that part of his career, and later on his days as a young child in Massillon.

During his two-year stay here, Tressel spent as much time in the home of longtime Tiger football boosters Maurie and Katie Basler as he did in his own home.

"All of the Massillon team pictures were on the wall in the Basler's Tigers den and that's what life was all about ... the Massillon Tigers," Tressel said. "It was about the young people, the players. It was about being there for them.

"It has been so special being a part of football and growing up - if briefly - in Massillon. But Massillon will always be home because of what it meant. It is



just awfully special to be here.”

Shepas presented the Sportsmanship Awards to Tyler Teter of Westerville South, Brian Young of Mt. Lebanon, Pa., Austin Clifton of Akron Garfield, Nate Szep and Tony Gonzalez of St. Ignatius, Steve Burnich of Austintown Fitch, George Andress of Mansfield, Quinn Humphries of Woodrow Wilson, James "Bo" Martin of Fremont Ross, Pernel Williams of Dayton Chaminade-Julienne, Shalamar Gilmer and Marcus Geiselman of McKinley, Adam Huddle of Marion Harding and Curt Lukens of North Canton Hoover.

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## *Tigers recognize best of teammates and foes*

By **JOHN BOOTH**  
John.Booth@IndeOnline.com

During the 10-week football season, the Massillon Tigers took on some of the best players and coaches the state had to offer.

Wednesday night, they faced several of them again, this time over a meal at the Elks Lodge rather than the line of scrimmage, at the Massillon Tiger Sideliners 51st Sportsmanship Awards Banquet.

As is the tradition, Massillon coaches honored a player from each of this year's Tiger foes, along with handing out the team's Bob Smith/J.W. "Bill" Snyder Memorial Award to Brad Hauser, and giving the Lee Tressel Citizenship Award to Andy Zalaiskalns.



Massillon coach Rick Shepas called Hauser a very fierce competitor who "exemplifies what sportsmanship is," and praised Zalaiskalns' "never-say-die work ethic," and his dedication to academics.

Also recognized were 26 players named to the 2003 Massillon Eighth Grade All-City Football team, comprised of boys from Lorin Andrews, Longfellow, St. Barbara's and St. Mary's.

West Virginia University head football coach Rich Rodriguez, who fulfilled the duties as guest speaker, spoke warmly of the relationship between his school and the Massillon football program, which has held several camps at WVU.

"We have a special friendship and bond, and we have a lot of

● Please see **TIGERS**, Page B-5

### ● **TIGERS** CONTINUED FROM PAGE B-1

things which are similar," said Rodriguez, whose Mountaineers started this season at 1-4 but then won seven straight to earn a Gator Bowl berth against Maryland.

One message in particular, which Rodriguez said was driven home after the Mountaineers lost a game they felt they should have won against Miami, seemed well-suited for this year's Tigers, who struggled with a schedule loaded with high-powered opposition.

"In football, you're going to make mistakes," he said. "You've got to move on. It's in the past."

In handing out the awards, Shepas spoke admiringly of the players who gave the Tigers the most trouble this year.

The coach was impressed with Garfield's Chris Wells, Warren Harding quarterback Alex Engram, Mansfield's Brett Donaldson, and St. Ignatius quarterback Bryan Hoyer.

Findlay's Tyler Curtis simply left Shepas stunned.

"We weren't able to stop this young man," Shepas said. "I've coached a long time. I've never had a player make 18 catches against us in a game."

And in a year in which Massillon faced a seemingly endless parade of running backs, Shepas saved his highest praise for Dayton Chaminade-Julienne's Javon Ringer.

"He's the guy I like the best," Shepas said. "I like this kid's attitude. Every time he took the ball, he was overflowing with confidence and preparation."

Also honored, but not present at the banquet, were Akron Buchtel's Antonio Pittman, Raymond Williams of Division III state champion Benedictine, Ryan Marando from Lakewood St. Edward, and Ryan Brinson of Canton McKinley.



SIDELINERS

2003

Massillon  
Tiger Sideliners



*51st Anniversary*  
*Sportsmanship Awards*  
*Banquet*  
December 10, 2003



# Helping from the Sidelines

## Group has supported Tiger football players since 1957

By **ERIN PUSTAY**  
Erin.Pustay@IndeOnline.com

Massillon football players know the entire town stands behind them. It is a town supporting them. Believing in them.

Evidence is in tiny cardboard signs that plaster downtown store fronts. Devotion waves from the windows of passing minivans in the form of orange and black car flags. In this city, even the detour signs don school colors with pride.

What every football player knows for sure, is that this town cares about him. That is because every football player has a Booster Club Sideline behind him.

"The Sidelineers simulate a Big Brothers-type organization," co-chair Joe Kertes said. "We connect an adult with a football player to assist in any way they can."

Since 1957, every junior and senior member of the varsity football team has been assigned a Sidelineer. Operating under the umbrella of the Massillon Tiger Football Booster Club, the Sidelineers work to provide each member of the football team with an unbiased source of support for whatever life may bring about socially, academically or athletically.

Before qualifying as a Sidelineer, volunteers must fill out a form with personal information and details of interests, availability and history. They are also subject to background checks every year they volunteer.

Matching mentors with Massillon football players can be done in several ways. Kertes and co-chair Ron Styer oversee the process and gather feedback from coaches, players and mentors.

"We try to assign players to Sidelineers based on what we perceive to be a match," Kertes said. "We take into account personalities, geographic location ... and we try to match them based on player positions."

If a volunteer Sidelineer was a defensive back in high school, he will



PHOTO BY STEVE SLAGLE/FOR THE INDEPENDENT

Massillon Booster Club Sidelineer Ron Thornberry sits with his assigned player, senior Dewayne Zimmerman, during the Sidelineer breakfast Saturday at the Elks Lodge.

most likely be paired with a current defensive back. Doing so, provides an immediate plane of familiarity.

Building familiarity and trust is critical to the effectiveness of the program. It takes time for the two to meld together. That is why players remain with the same Sidelineer for at least two years.

Once the two have established a familiar sense of rapport, there is good chance that a lifelong friendship will develop.

"The best part is when a young man grows up and comes home and you see how much he has matured and you know that you were a part of that," Kertes said. "You keep in contact with them. I still keep contact with players that I was a Sidelineer for 15 years ago."

How much time a Sidelineer and player spend together is completely up to the pair. It is required that the two meet once a week for the pregame meals the Massillon Moms



■ Tiger Tales is a weekly series of on-and-off-the-field features on important people and moments in

Tigertown, then and now. If you have an idea for a Tiger Tale, write to [Indenews@IndeOnline.com](mailto:Indenews@IndeOnline.com) or call 330-832-2631, ext. 3210.

prepare. Keeping in mind that academics and athletics are the player's first two priorities, the duo is free to spend as much time together as they like after that.

"Sidelineers are afforded the opportunity to take the player out shopping, out to eat, to a football game or to a movie," Kertes said. "As long as it doesn't interfere with the player's academic or athletic schedule."

Over time, through activities, players become part of the family. Sidelineers become like godparents and often attend college graduations, weddings and similar gatherings.

Sidelineers with children find their kids grow to admire the players. Kertes remembers how his youngest son looked up to Massillon football players.

"One situation, I remember. My son wrote a note to one of the varsity players and asked me to give it to him before the game," Kertes said. "The note was perfectly written. It told him that my son would like him, even if he lost the game."

That is the kind of thing that inspires student-athletes. Having people of all ages encouraging and supporting them in their endeavors helps to shape their character and their worlds. Kertes is sure the players gain as much as the volunteers.

"I try to think back to when I was a Sidelineer," Kertes said. "I think the players really appreciate the fact that there are adults in the community who care about them and are willing to support them in any way they can."



2014



## TIGER SIDELINERS

**Ron Swartz**  
Co-Chairman  
330.704.2922

**Al Crissy**  
Co-Chairman  
330-844-2472

**Jeff Bricker**  
Co-Chairman  
330.592-5848

**David Weaver**  
Sec / Treasurer  
330-806-8903

### **Sideliners' Mission Statement**

Mentor and support the varsity players of the Massillon Tiger Football program. Encourage players to be the best they can be on and off the field. Hand down our traditions through real life stories of our great history.

### **Sideliners' Creed**

The Massillon Tiger Sideliners are men dedicated to the Massillon Tiger Football program. Our dedication is shown by our support and encouragement of everyone associated with the program.

Realizing that high school football is part of the Massillon Public Schools and a means to a positive end for our youngsters, we strive to develop mature attitudes in the student participating in the football program. We encourage these students to excel in their families, in the classroom, on the athletic field and in the community. We strive to develop a positive relationship with the coaches, faculty, and administration. All the people associated with the program must do all that is possible to continue to provide scholastic and athletic opportunities of our youth. Massillon Tiger Football represents a strong sense of community pride. Many people in our community share this pride. As sideliners, we strive to conduct ourselves in a manner so as to set mature examples of sportsmanship, achievement, and citizenship for all people in the community associated with Massillon Tiger Football.



## Sideline History

The Massillon Tiger Sideliners is a facet of The Massillon Tiger Football Booster Club. The program originated in 1957 with Coach Lee Tressel as the driving force. His intent was to provide a nutritious pregame meal for the players and coaches. In order to get the community involved with our football program, interested men could become a "Sideline". Each "Sideline" was assigned a player for the upcoming season in order to develop, with guidelines, a personal relationship. These pregame meals were mandatory. These coaches liked the fact that the players were in a controlled environment, hence, the risks of any undesired activity were eliminated. Being a sideline was a two way street. The players received positive and enthusiastic guidance for his commitment to the game, while the sideline gained a feeling of accomplishment for being a mentor.

Our society today has many disturbing concerns and challenges for not only our student athletes, but for all of our young people. In keeping with the Sideline Tradition and its objectives it has never been more important that we provide friendship, guidance, leadership, sportsmanship, growth and support to help them meet these challenges. To help manage those objectives are some Do's and Don'ts:

### Do's

- Be a positive influence
- Support the coaching staff
- Constantly encourage your player(s) to work hard on the field and in the classroom
- Your player follows team rules
- Be a good listener
- Set an example with your dress, your behavior, and your attitude

### Don'ts

- Don't be critical of your player, the team, or coaching staff
- Don't be a buddy when he needs adult guidance



1. STUDENT ATHLETE SIDELINER CODE OF CONDUCT
2. COURTEOUS AND RESPECTFUL OF SIDELINERS AND FELLOW TEAMMATES
3. ACT AS A REPRESENTATIVE OF MASSILLON WASHINGTON HIGHSCHOOL, THE MASSILLON TIGER FOOTBALL PROGRAM, AND THE MASSILLON COMMUNITY
4. NO HATS WORN INDOORS
5. NO PERSONAL DEVICES DURING EVENTS SUCH AS CELLULAR PHONES AND EAR PHONES
6. BE A "BIG BROTHER" TO THE UNDERCLASSMEN



## Tiger Sideline Meals - 2014

Tues	Aug 26	School	6 pm
Wed	Sep 3	School	6 pm
Thu	Sep 11	School	6 pm
Thu	Sep 18	Sideline Treat	
Thu	Sep 25	Santangelos	6 pm
Thu	Oct 2	St. Johns	6 pm
Thu	Oct 9	Santangelos	6 pm
Thu	Oct 16	Sideline Treat	
Thu	Oct 23	School	6 pm
Fri	Oct 31	School	6 pm



## 2014 Player Assignments

<u>Player</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>City/St</u>	<u>Player Phone</u>	<u>Sideliner</u>	<u>SL Phone</u>
Border, Seth	421 11th Street Nw	Massillon, OH	330-209-2821	Scott Lehman	330-327-1172
Brahler, Dane	10595 Kilmarnock Rd NE	Alliance, OH	330-323-5380	Ken Goodnight	330-832-0707
Bronczek, John Henry	2236 Stoner Ave NE	Massillon, OH	330-837-5920	Nick Pribich	330-417-5393
Bushe, Logan	518 2nd Street NE	Massillon, OH	234-650-1001	Vince Pedro	330-327-1320
Bushman, Nick	336 Lori Ave NE	Massillon, OH	330-830-0554	John Helm	330-417-5177
Crabtree, J.D.	416 11th Street NE	Massillon, OH	330-417-3081	Dave Weaver	330-806-8903
David, Andrew	8236 Oxford Chase CR.	Massillon, OH	330-323-0432	Tom McCarthy	330-685-5110
Dixon, Austin	411 11th Street SW	Massillon, OH	330-265-4761	Bryan Steffee	330-413-7528
Dziakowicz, John	534 Neale Ave SW	Massillon, OH	570-903-4584	Ken Goodnight	330-832-0707
Easley, Joe	1120 23rd Street SW	Massillon, OH	330-413-5086	Keith King	330-904-6249
Eversole, Cody	470 23rd Street NW	Massillon, OH	330-327-6488	Mark Fair	216-956-7733
Hazel, Andrew	3268 Carson Ave NW	Massillon, OH	330-832-2401	Ray Jeske	330-837-9000
Henderson, Dylan	400 27th St NW	Massillon, OH	330-830-8724	Don Mason	330-324-2511
Hendricks, James	1225 11th Street NE	Massillon, OH	330-837-7911	Gary Vogt	330-833-6365
Jackson, Malek	220 8th Street NE	Massillon, OH	330-371-6466	Tom Frank	330-203-7315
Krichbaum, Sam	804 15th St. SW	Massillon, OH	330-417-8126	Anthony Repp	330-412-6210
Manson, Blake	1605 Bramblewood Cir.	Massillon, OH	330-832-8430	Bob Hollender	330-832-8406
Pachis, Zach	1343 16th Street NE	Massillon, OH	330-832-2781	Dick Bordner	330-833-4304
Pryor, Nashawn	1210 16th Street SE	Massillon, OH	330-209-3249	Bill Brown	330-704-2548
Ries, Gunner	921 Wales Road NE	Massillon, OH	330-832-7437	Ron Swartz	330-704-2922
Roberts, Tristan	2122 40th Street NE	Canton, OH	330-546-6516	Jeff Bricker	330-673-3000
Robinson, Daniel	11081 Gladdis St SW	Massillon, OH	330-837-9119	David Weaver	330-806-8903
Robinson, Kayrron	1115 Woodland Ave SE	Massillon, OH	330-201-4288	Ron Pribich	330-936-4774
Rogers, Reggie	533 Green Ave NW	Massillon, OH	330-592-0876	Scott Garner	330-844-3558
Sciortino, Steven	811 7th Street SW	Massillon, OH	330-481-4179	Bryan Steffee	330-413-7528
Smith, Michael	819 11th Street NE	Massillon, OH	330-209-2289	Don Mason	330-324-2511
Weisand, Spencer	5838 Drenta Cir SW	Navarre, OH	330-605-2045	Vaughn Mohler	330-309-8584
Williams, Devin	613 Griffith Ave SW	Massillon, OH	330-312-1327	Al Crissey	330-837-1046
Zentkovich, Jacob	1526 14th Street SE	Massillon, OH	330-833-1044	Charles Minor	330-832-0383



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**Tigervogt@sssnet.com**

**From:** <FOURONETIG@aol.com>  
**Date:** Saturday, February 25, 2017 6:07 PM  
**To:** <TIGERVOGT@SSSNET.COM>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Nick Saban

Nate/Gary,

I thought I would give my recollection, and Gary please feel free to correct as you remember.

The banquet you ask about was after the season and prior to the Official Football Banquet. It began in the early 50's as the Jaycee's Sportsmanship Awards Banquet (there was a national organization named The Junior Chamber of Commerce..Jaycees... with a very active chapter in Massillon of 21 to 40 yr old young business men). The banquet's purpose was to recognize one player from each opponent as that team's award winner from their game with the Tigers. The Jaycees invited the coach, player and player's parents to drive to Massillon and attend and receive that player's individual trophy ( like an all opponent squad). It was unique at that time and well attended with the attendees from as far away as Elder, Roger Bacon and of course Warren, Mck, etc...

As costs rose and the Jaycees began to lose membership it was decided that the Sideliners(who at that time had their own post season final dinner) would join the Jaycees, help greatly defray the cost and jointly keep the banquet going. The Jaycee Award given to the Tiger player was the Bob Smith/Bill Snyder Sportsmanship Award(both had been Jaycees in the past and MC'd the original Jaycee banquets ...often with a comedy skit as part of the evening). The Sideliner Award given to a Tiger player was the Sideliner Citizen/Athlete Award in the spirit of the community involvement theme of the Sideliner concept that Lee Tressel had in mind from the beginning.

The banquet became, and continued for many years as, the Jaycees/Tiger Sideliners Awards Banquet. The expanded title would be officially The Jaycees Sportsmanship/Tiger Sideliners Citizen Athlete Awards Banquet. As the Jaycees eventually dissolved it just became the Sideliners Sportsmanship Awards Banquet at which both awards were given.

As player recognition and awards became rampant, opponents coaches and players became less interested in driving to Massillon for "just another award". Opponents attendance waned and it was decided that the cost/benefit no longer worked. This was also about the time(around the time of Al Paris as Supt) when more of the cost of supporting the basics of the football program shifted from the school budget to the boosters of the program. The Sideliner Bqt ended and the financial support went to helping with the Official Team Bqt(which in prior years had been 100% paid for by the school's football budget).

In the normal too many words Jim explanation..that is my memory of the chronology of events. Gary...please verify best you can. If pretty close to the facts you might want to copy this and put in a relevant Sideliner or ???? file,

*A historical summary of the Sideliner Sportsmanship  
Award Banquets by Jim Bryan.*

2/26/2017