

OSCAR ROBERTSON TROPHY

The USBWA Player of the Year award is the nation's oldest and only one named after a player. The legendary Oscar Robertson was the USBWA's first player of the year in 1959. The USBWA renamed its award after Robertson in 1998. The award permanently resides in the foyer of Conseco Fieldhouse in Indianapolis, the hometown of Oscar Robertson.



Past USBWA President Bryan Burwell and Oscar Robertson with the 2010-11 USBWA Player of the Year, Jimmer Fredette of BYU.

ALL-TIME USBWA PLAYERS OF THE YEAR

1958-59	Oscar Robertson , Cincinnati
1959-60	Oscar Robertson , Cincinnati
1960-61	Jerry Lucas , Ohio State
1961-62	Jerry Lucas , Ohio State
1962-63	Art Heyman , Duke
1963-64	Walt Hazzard , UCLA
1964-65	Bill Bradley , Princeton
1965-66	Cazzie Russell , Michigan
1966-67	Lew Alcindor , UCLA
1967-68	Lew Alcindor , UCLA
1968-69	Pete Maravich , LSU
1969-70	Pete Maravich , LSU
1970-71	Sidney Wicks , UCLA
1971-72	Bill Walton , UCLA
1972-73	Bill Walton , UCLA
1973-74	Bill Walton , UCLA
1974-75	David Thompson , North Carolina State

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1975-76	Adrian Dantley , Notre Dame
1976-77	Marques Johnson , UCLA
1977-78	Phil Ford , North Carolina
1978-79	Larry Bird , Indiana State
1979-80	Mark Aguirre , DePaul
1980-81	Ralph Sampson , Virginia
1981-82	Ralph Sampson , Virginia
1982-83	Ralph Sampson , Virginia
1983-84	Michael Jordan , North Carolina
1984-85	Chris Mullin , St. John's
1985-86	Walter Berry , St. John's
1986-87	David Robinson , Navy
1987-88	Hersey Hawkins , Bradley
1988-89	Danny Ferry , Duke
1989-90	Lionel Simmons , La Salle
1990-91	Larry Johnson , UNLV
1991-92	Christian Laettner , Duke
1992-93	Calbert Cheaney , Indiana
1993-94	Glenn Robinson , Purdue
1994-95	Ed O'Bannon , UCLA
1995-96	Marcus Camby , Massachusetts
1996-97	Tim Duncan , Wake Forest
1997-98	Antawn Jamison , North Carolina
1998-99	Elton Brand , Duke
1999-00	Kenyon Martin , Cincinnati
2000-01	Shane Battier , Duke
2001-02	Jason Williams , Duke
2002-03	David West , Xavier
2003-04	Jameer Nelson , Saint Joseph's
2004-05	Andrew Bogut , Utah
2005-06	Adam Morrison , Gonzaga
	J.J. Redick , Duke
2006-07	Kevin Durant , Texas
2007-08	Tyler Hansbrough , North Carolina
2008-09	Blake Griffin , Oklahoma
2009-10	Evan Turner , Ohio State
2010-11	Jimmer Fredette , BYU

HENRY IBA AWARD

The USBWA's Coach of the Year Award is named for legendary coach Henry Iba, who won 655 games and led Oklahoma A&M to NCAA championships in 1945 and '46. Iba also directed the U.S. Olympic team to gold medals in 1964 and '68 and a silver medal in 1972.



ESPN's Andy Katz with the 2010-11 Henry Iba Coach of the Year recipient Mike Brey of Notre Dame.

ALL-TIME USBWA COACHES OF THE YEAR

1958-59	Eddie Hickey , Marquette
1959-60	Pete Newell , California
1960-61	Fred Taylor , Ohio State
1961-62	Fred Taylor , Ohio State
1962-63	Ed Jucker , Cincinnati
1963-64	John Wooden , UCLA
1964-65	Bill Van Breda Kolff , Princeton
1965-66	Adolph Rupp , Kentucky
1966-67	John Wooden , UCLA
1967-68	Guy Lewis , Houston
1968-69	John Wooden , UCLA
1969-70	John Wooden , UCLA
1970-71	John Wooden , UCLA
1971-72	John Wooden , UCLA
1972-73	John Wooden , UCLA
1973-74	Norm Sloan , North Carolina State
1974-75	Bob Knight , Indiana
1975-76	Johnny Orr , Michigan
1976-77	Eddie Sutton , Arkansas

HENRY IBA AWARD

1977-78	Ray Meyer , DePaul
1978-79	Dean Smith , North Carolina
1979-80	Ray Meyer , DePaul
1980-81	Ralph Miller , Oregon State
1981-82	John Thompson , Georgetown
1982-83	Lou Carnesecca , St. John's
1983-84	Gene Keady , Purdue
1984-85	Lou Carnesecca , St. John's
1985-86	Dick Versace , Bradley
1986-87	John Chaney , Temple
1987-88	John Chaney , Temple
1988-89	Bob Knight , Indiana
1989-90	Roy Williams , Kansas
1990-91	Randy Ayers , Ohio State
1991-92	Perry Clark , Tulane
1992-93	Eddie Fogler , Vanderbilt
1993-94	Charlie Spoonhour , Saint Louis
1994-95	Kelvin Sampson , Oklahoma
1995-96	Gene Keady , Purdue
1996-97	Clem Haskins , Minnesota
1997-98	Tom Izzo , Michigan State
1998-99	Cliff Ellis , Auburn
1999-00	Larry Eustachy , Iowa State
2000-01	Al Skinner , Boston College
2001-02	Ben Howland , Pittsburgh
2002-03	Tubby Smith , Kentucky
2004-04	Phil Martelli , Saint Joseph's
2004-05	Bruce Weber , Illinois
2005-06	Roy Williams , North Carolina
2006-07	Tony Bennett , Washington State
2007-08	Keno Davis , Drake
2008-09	Bill Self , Kansas
2009-10	Jim Boeheim , Syracuse
2010-11	Mike Brey , Notre Dame

USBWA GOOD GUY AWARD

Presented annually to a coach who is recognized for being cooperative with sportswriters and for contributions to college basketball.

2009	Tom Izzo , Michigan State
2010	Ron Hunter , IUPUI
2011	Rick Barnes , Texas

USBWA WOMEN'S PLAYER OF THE YEAR AND COACH OF THE YEAR

PLAYERS OF THE YEAR

1987-88	Sue Wicks , Rutgers
1988-89	Clarissa Davis , Texas
1989-90	Jennifer Azzi , Stanford
1990-91	Dawn Staley , Virginia
1991-92	Dawn Staley , Virginia
1992-93	Sheryl Swoopes , Texas Tech
1993-94	Lisa Leslie , USC
1994-95	Rebecca Lobo , Connecticut
1995-96	Saudia Roundtree , Georgia
1996-97	Kate Starbird , Stanford
1997-98	Chamique Holdsclaw , Tennessee
1998-99	Chamique Holdsclaw , Tennessee
1999-00	Tamika Catchings , Tennessee
2000-01	Ruth Riley , Notre Dame
2001-02	Sue Bird , Connecticut
2002-03	Diana Taurasi , Connecticut
2003-04	Alana Beard , Duke
2004-05	Seimone Augustus , LSU
2005-06	Ivory Latta , North Carolina
2006-07	Candace Parker , Tennessee
2007-08	Candace Parker , Tennessee
2008-09	Maya Moore , Connecticut
2009-10	Tina Charles , Connecticut
2010-11	Maya Moore , Connecticut

COACHES OF THE YEAR

1989-90	Tara VanDerveer , Stanford
1990-91	Debbie Ryan , Virginia
1991-92	Christine Weller , Maryland
1992-93	Jim Foster , Vanderbilt
1993-94	Ceal Barry , Colorado
1994-95	Geno Auriemma , Connecticut
1995-96	Leon Barmore , Louisiana Tech
1996-97	Wendy Lary , Old Dominion
1997-98	Pat Summitt , Tennessee
1998-99	Carolyn Peck , Purdue
1999-00	Andy Landers , Georgia
2000-01	Muffet McGraw , Notre Dame
2001-02	Brenda Oldfield , Minnesota
2002-03	Geno Auriemma , Connecticut
2003-04	Joe Curl , Houston
2004-05	Pokey Chatman , LSU
2005-06	Sylvia Hatchell , North Carolina
2006-07	Gail Goestenkors , Duke
2007-08	Geno Auriemma , Connecticut
2008-09	Geno Auriemma , Connecticut
2009-10	Connie Yori , Nebraska
2010-11	Kim Mulkey , Baylor

USBWA HALL OF FAME

The USBWA Hall of Fame was established in 1988 to honor members – past and present – who have made significant contributions to the organization and are recognized for their achievements in sports journalism. To be eligible for consideration, an individual must have 20 years of service in the profession.



Past USBWA President Bryan Burwell (left) with 2011 Hall of Fame inductee Art Spander of the San Francisco Examiner.

PETE AXTHELM (2009): Axthelm wrote for the New York Herald Tribune and Sports Illustrated but was best known for the 20 years he spent at Newsweek, first as sports editor and then as a columnist and contributing editor. He was also a sports television commentator for NBC and later ESPN. He authored "City Game, Basketball in New York," the first book to seriously explore college basketball recruiting. The book combined an account of the championship season of the New York Knicks with a study of those who played in ghetto playgrounds and became neighborhood legends but never played professionally.

SMITH BARRIER (1988): A past president of the organization (1970-71), Barrier's career spanned four decades and included coverage of the Southern Conference (1941-53) and Atlantic Coast Conference (1954-1988). He covered the Final Four for 30 years (1957-87) and penned several books on college basketball.

LARRY BOECK (1994): Writer for the Louisville Courier-Journal and Times for 25 years before moving into athletic community relations for the University of Louisville. President of the USBWA in 1966-67.

FRANK BOGGS (2007): A 10-time Oklahoma Sportswriter of the Year and former sportswriter for the Daily Oklahoman, Topeka Capital-Journal and Dallas Times-Herald and former sports editor and columnist for the Daily Oklahoman and Colorado Springs Sun; president of the USBWA (1981-82) and recipient of the CoSIDA Jake Wade Award for sports journalism excellence; member of the Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame.

USBWA HALL OF FAME

RICK BOZICH (2009): A past president of the USBWA (2003-04), Bozich joined the Louisville Courier-Journal and Times staff in 1978. He became the Times' sports columnist in 1981 and the Courier-Journal's columnist in 1986. He has covered NCAA championship teams at Kentucky, Louisville and Indiana. He was won numerous best writing contest awards from the USBWA and APSE. He has also been a college basketball correspondent for Sports Illustrated since 1986.

BILL BRILL (1990): USBWA president in 1980-81, Brill began his career with the Roanoke Times and World News in 1956 and served as the paper's executive sports editor and columnist through 1991. Now a resident of Durham, N.C., Brill is still a regular contributor to several publications.

FRANK BURLISON (2005): When inducted, Burlison had covered college basketball for nearly 30 years for the Long Beach Press-Telegram, Orange County Register and FoxSports.net. In 1992, Sports Illustrated listed him as one of the country's "10 most influential members of the media" in college basketball.

WALTER BYERS (2010): Former Executive Director of the NCAA who is credited with the idea to form the U.S. Basketball Writers Association in 1956. Byers was media-friendly and praised for his cooperation and treatment of sportswriters.

DAVE CAWOOD (1998): Former Assistant Executive Director at the NCAA who for nearly 25 years was the media coordinator for the NCAA Final Four.

BILL CONNORS (2011): An iconic columnist in Oklahoma who passed away in 2000, Connors spent 47 years at the Tulsa World, where he was the sports editor from 1959-94. The soft-spoken Connors was a native of Canadian, Okla., who became a graduate of Oklahoma State. He was best known for writing columns that were clever, informative and fair to their subjects. Connors was an 11-time winner of Oklahoma's Sports-writer of the Year award and was inducted into the Oklahoma Sports Hall of Fame in 1998.

KEN DENLINGER (2001): A Washington Post writer since 1966. Denlinger has covered Final Fours, Super Bowls, the Olympics and heavyweight championships during his career. Named "Sportswriter of the Year" in Washington, D.C., and author of a pair of books on college sports.

LARRY DONALD (1992): The only two-term president of the USBWA (1986-88), Donald served as editor and publisher of nationally distributed publications, Basketball Times and Eastern Basketball. He was cited numerous times in the USBWA's Best Writing Contest.

DAVE DORR (1991): This longtime staff writer at the St. Louis Post-Dispatch was USBWA president in 1979-80. He covered Final Fours from 1973 until the mid-1990s and was for many years a college basketball columnist for The Sporting News. Recipient in 1991 of the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame's second Curt Gowdy Award.

USBWA HALL OF FAME

WAYNE DUKE (1988): Known by many for his lengthy tenure as Big Ten commissioner, Duke was, along with former NCAA director Walter Byers, largely responsible for forming the USBWA in 1956. Duke authored the original USBWA constitution and has maintained membership since the organization's inception.

JIM ENRIGHT (1993): Enright was a college basketball writer for the old Chicago Today newspaper and a well-known referee in the Windy City area. Enright also served as USBWA president in 1967-68.

JOHN FEINSTEIN (2000): Gained fame for his book on Bob Knight and the Indiana Hoosiers in 1986 with "A Season on the Brink." Subsequently, Feinstein has written several more best-selling books while continuing to write about college basketball for the Washington Post. He was president of the USBWA in 1991-92.

DICK FENLON (1998): Retired columnist and reporter for the Columbus Dispatch, who previously worked in Louisville as a columnist for the Courier-Journal, covering Kentucky and Louisville. Was an NCAA Final Four regular for at least two decades before retiring in 1997.

MAL FLORENCE (2000): Mal has been on the Los Angeles Times sports staff since 1951 and still writes a column for the paper. He was the college beat writer for the Times in the '60s and '70s and covered UCLA during its dynasty years.

DAN FOSTER (1998): Sports editor and columnist for the Greenville (S.C.) News, who has covered college basketball (ACC and SEC) for over 50 years.

MARVIN "SKEETER" FRANCIS (1989): Francis was a longtime assistant commissioner and service bureau director at the Atlantic Coast Conference. Before joining the ACC in 1969, he served as sports information director at Wake Forest for 15 years.

MICKEY FURFARI (2011): Furfari has covered West Virginia athletics for 65 years, through the basketball eras of "Hot Rod" Hundley, Jerry West, Rod Thorn and Fred Schaus. At 87, he is retired after 40 years as a daily sportswriter for the Dominion Post, but still writes columns for a syndicate of several West Virginia newspapers. Furfari has covered West Virginia athletics since graduating from the school in 1948. The state's dean of sportswriting was voted West Virginia sportswriter of the year five times. Though he "retired" on Aug. 1, 1989, and is legally blind, Furfari continues to write a column for a syndicate of West Virginia newspapers. He recently completed the book Mickey's Mountaineer Memories. In the introduction, West called Furfari "a state treasure." Furfari spent 40 years (1949-89) at the Morgantown Dominion Post as a managing editor, sports editor and executive sports editor.

MARY GARBER (2000): Pioneer female sports writer for the Winston Salem-Journal whose career in sportswriting began in 1946. She covered the ACC and Wake Forest before retiring in 1986. Garber won some 40 writing awards in her career.

USBWA HALL OF FAME

J. HERBERT GOOD (1989): Good was president of the organization in 1958-59. He was a staff writer for the Philadelphia Inquirer and Philadelphia Bulletin.

RON GREEN SR. (1994): Covered sports in Charlotte, N.C. for half a century with the old Charlotte News and the Charlotte Observer. Has been North Carolina Sportswriter of the Year numerous times.

MEL GREENBERG (2002): Greenberg is considered a pioneer among sportswriters for his national coverage of women's college basketball. He started the first top 20 poll for women's basketball in 1976 and is a member of the Big 5 Hall of Fame in Philadelphia.

STEVE GUBACK (1989): From 1977-83, Guback served as executive director of the USBWA. During his tenure, Guback originated the USBWA's Most Courageous Award. He covered his first NCAA tournament in 1959 while working with the Richmond Times-Dispatch and completed a long award-winning sportswriting career with 20 years at the Washington Star.

BOB HAMMEL (1990): Hammel was the sports editor of the Bloomington Herald Telephone for 30 years and a sportswriter for 44 years. He has been named the Indiana Sportswriter of the Year 17 times and covered 23 Final Fours since 1968. He was also a USBWA president (1982-83).

BOB HENTZEN (1990): A 14-time winner of the Kansas Sportswriter of the Year, Hentzen regularly covered the Final Four since 1973. Beginning in 1973, he served as sports editor of the Topeka Capital-Journal and was president of the USBWA in 1975-76.

DICK HERBERT (1988): Another past president (1959-60), Herbert founded and then edited for 12 years the organization's newsletter, The Tipoff. He served as sports editor of the Raleigh News and Observer for 29 years.

BILL JAUSS (2003): Legendary Chicago sportswriter for nearly 50 years with the Chicago Daily News, the Chicago Today and the Chicago Tribune since 1974. Was an original member of the nationally-syndicated TV show "Sportswriters."

DAVE KINDRED (1996): A nationally-known columnist, Kindred has worked for the Louisville Courier-Journal, the Washington Post and Atlanta Journal-Constitution. He also has been a longtime columnist for The Sporting News. Authored a still-popular book on basketball in the state of Kentucky.

CURRY KIRKPATRICK (1993): Longtime college basketball writer for Sports Illustrated, Kirkpatrick was a frequent winner in the USBWA's Best Writing Contest. He also served as a college basketball reporter for CBS Sports and ESPN The Magazine.

DAVE KRIDER (1997): Longtime prep writer from LaPorte, Ind., who also covered high school football and basketball for USA Today. Was a pioneer in writing nationally about preps. Work has appeared in Basketball Weekly, Street & Smith's and Basketball Times.

USBWA HALL OF FAME

RAY MARQUETTE (1988): USBWA president in 1962-63, Marquette wrote for the Indianapolis News and Star. He was the executive director and secretary of the USBWA from 1969-77, when he was killed in a plane crash. He was considered a key man in the organization in the transition from original executive secretary Ed Schneider after Schneider's retirement in the 1960s.

GARY McCANN (2009): McCann started his career at the Burlington Times-News in 1971 and moved to the Greensboro News & Record in 1981 before leaving to replace the legendary Bob Hammel as sports editor at the Bloomington, Ind., Herald-Times in 1996. He joined The Herald in Rock Hill, SC in 1998 as sports editor. He has covered 17 Final Fours and numerous ACC tournaments and has won 10 USBWA writing awards and more than 20 other state and national writing awards.

BILL MILLSAPS (2002): Millsaps was USBWA president in 1985-86 and a sportswriter and columnist for over two decades, including serving 15 years as sports editor at the Richmond Times-Dispatch and later becoming the newspaper's vice president and executive editor. He is an 11-time winner of the Virginia Sportswriter of the Year award.

HUBERT MIZELL (1995): Eight-time Florida Sportswriter of the Year. Chosen national columnist of the year by AP Sports Editors (APSE). Covered more than 30 Final Fours before retiring in 2001.

MALCOLM MORAN (2005): President of the USBWA in 1988-89, when the organization formalized its awards for women and held its first nationally-televised presentation of the player of the year awards. He reported on college basketball for four newspapers over 30 years: Newsday, The New York Times, Chicago Tribune and USA Today. Named inaugural Knight Chair in Sports Journalism and Society in the College of Communications at Penn State in 2006.

SKIP MYSLENSKI (2010): Retired in 2008 after 42 years as a sportswriter. Started at the Rochester Times-Union in 1967, moved on to Sports Illustrated in 1968 and the Philadelphia Inquirer in 1973, and then joined the Chicago Tribune in 1978 where he spent the next 30 years covering college sports. He was named the Tribune's national college basketball writer in 1988.

GARY NUHN (1999): Noted sports columnist for the Dayton Daily News who began covering the University of Dayton and Ohio State basketball in the early 1970s. Winner of several USBWA Best Writing Contests and was USBWA president in 1989-90.

JIM O'BRIEN (2003): Founding editor of Street & Smith's Basketball magazine for over 23 years and author of 12 books about Pittsburgh sports. Had newspaper stints at the Pittsburgh Press, New York Post and Miami News.

JIM O'CONNELL (2002): O'Connell was president of the USBWA in 1997-98 and currently is the national college basketball editor for the Associated Press. He has been on the AP staff since 1978. O'Connell was inducted into the media wing of the Basketball Hall of Fame in 2002, received the Big East Conference Media Award in 2001 and was honored as the NIT National Media Man of the Year in 1997.

USBWA HALL OF FAME

JERRY RADDING (2004): Became the first New England writer to serve as USBWA president in 1973-74. Retired from the Springfield (Mass.) Union News in 1991 after a 41-year career and has been a fixture at the NCAA Final Four for nearly four decades. Was the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame's first publicity director.

BILLY REED (1996): Noted college basketball writer for the Louisville Courier-Journal, Lexington Herald-Leader and Sports Illustrated. Won numerous awards in the USBWA Best Writing Contest. Also served a term on the USBWA board of directors.

BOB RUSSELL (2001): Honored as the first person elected president of the USBWA in 1959, Russell was then a writer for the Chicago Daily News.

BOB RYAN (1994): USBWA president (2001-02) and Boston Globe columnist who has co-authored books on Larry Bird, Bob Cousy and John Havlicek. Ryan has been with the Globe since 1968.

JAY SIMON (1988): This former USBWA president (1963-64) was sports editor of the Topeka Capital-Journal after World War II and moved to Oklahoma City, where he was the top collegiate writer at the Daily Oklahoman. Later, Simon was the sports information director at Kansas.

ART SPANDER (2011): Spander began his career as a news writer for the United Press International in 1960 and moved to sportswriting for the Santa Monica Outlook in 1963. He went to work for the San Francisco Chronicle in 1965 and was named the lead columnist for the San Francisco Examiner in 1979. Spander was awarded the McCann Award in 1999, earning him a place in the Pro Football Hall of Fame. His golf coverage earned him the Masters Major Achievement Award in 2007, the PGA of America Lifetime Achievement Award in 2009. He won the UCLA Award for Professional Achievement in journalism and the Tournament Golf Journalism Award in 2011.

JERRY TAX (1991): Tax was a writer and editor at Sports Illustrated from 1955-81. Tax was instrumental in Sports Illustrated expanding its national coverage to college basketball in the 1950s and 1960s.

JERRY TIPTON (2005): Has covered Kentucky basketball for the Lexington Herald-Leader since 1982 and has been named Kentucky Sportswriter of the Year and Herald-Leader Excellence Award winner. Worked for the Huntington (W. Va.) Herald-Dispatch for eight years before joining the Herald-Leader.

CAULTON TUDOR (1999): Longtime columnist and staff writer for the Raleigh Times and News Observer, Caulton's sportswriting career covers a 30-year span in Raleigh. He has covered every ACC Tournament since 1972 and the Final Four since 1974. Twice he was elected president of the ACC Sportswriters Association.

BOB VETRONE (1990): Vetrone began his sports journalism career in Philadelphia in 1943 when he joined the Philadelphia Bulletin and later became an assistant sports information director at La Salle.

USBWA HALL OF FAME

BUD WITHERS (2010): President of the USBWA in 1992-93, Withers has covered sports for three Northwest newspapers since 1970. He worked at the Eugene Register-Guard from 1970-87 and the Seattle Post-Intelligencer from 1987-99 and has been at the Seattle Times since 1999. He has written books on Gonzaga basketball and basketball coaching legend Ralph Miller and has been named "Sportswriter of the Year" in both Oregon and Washington.

ALEXANDER WOLFF (2002): As USBWA president in 1999-2000, Wolff was instrumental in starting a USBWA-sponsored scholarship program for aspiring sports journalism students and also initiated a sportswriting seminar held each year at the Final Four. He joined Sports Illustrated in 1980 and is the author of several books on basketball.



USBWA Executive Director Joe Mitch (left) and past President Jim O'Connell (right) with 2011 Katha Quinn Award winner Oliver Pierce of Gonzaga.

KATHA QUINN AWARD

This award is presented by the USBWA in memory of Katha Quinn, a former sports information director at St. John's University who died of cancer following a courageous battle with the disease. The award recognizes those in college basketball who like Katha have either excelled at servicing the media or provide an inspiration to those in the sports journalism profession.

KATHA QUINN (1988): Sports information director at St. John's University.

MARVIN "SKEETER" FRANCIS (1991): Longtime service bureau director for the Atlantic Coast Conference.

TOM FRERICKS (1992): Former athletic director at Dayton and also chairman of the NCAA's Division I Basketball Committee who was especially attentive to the needs of writers.

KATHA QUINN AWARD

ROGER VALDISERRI (1993): Sports information director for many years at Notre Dame and a man who, in view of many, was the best ever in his business. His skill at assisting writers who were assigned to cover Notre Dame and ability to make the task much easier is legendary.

MARVIN "SWEDE" JOHNSON (1994): Vice-president of corporate affairs at Coors Brewing Co. and person responsible for Coors' continued involvement and sponsorship of the Most Courageous Award. Johnson initiated the idea of producing a video of the Most Courageous Award recipient for the USBWA's awards brunch at the Final Four.

GEORGE RAVELING (1995): The former head coach at Washington State, Iowa and Southern California was an accessible and thoughtful individual in his dealings with the media during his career.

RICK BREWER (1996): Former sports information director at North Carolina. His easy-going, yet professional style, made the business of covering the Tar Heels much easier than it might have been.

CRAIG MILLER AND AMY EARLY (1997): Of USA Basketball, who, through tireless efforts, assisted many basketball writers in their coverage of the "Dream Team" in the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta.

AL SHRIER (1998): Retired in 1995 after 42 years as sports information director at Temple University. He received numerous honors from CoSIDA for his brochures and media guides.

BILL HANCOCK (1999): Former media coordinator and tournament director of the NCAA Division I men's basketball tournament and former assistant commissioner and service bureau director of the Big Eight Conference. Hancock started his career as assistant SID at Oklahoma and later spent four years working with his brother on a family-owned daily newspaper before joining the Big Eight. He had been with the NCAA since 1989, before moving on to work with college football's Bowl Championship Series in 2005.

TIM TOLOKAN (2000): Sports information director at Connecticut for over 20 years and a favorite among the media covering the Huskies. "A lot of places, when you call the SID office, you almost hope that you get the voice mail," said AP basketball editor Jim O'Connell. "But at Connecticut, you're hoping you get to talk to Tim."

MIKE TRANGHESE (2001): A former sports information director at Providence College who worked his way up the ranks from league PR director to commissioner of the Big East Conference and chair of the NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Committee. Always has been regarded as a friend of the media as a college athletics administrator.

MARK ASHER (2002): Noted sportswriter for the Washington Post who continued to cover major sporting events while battling serious health problems for close to 20 years, many stemming from diabetes and kidney and pancreas transplants.

KATHA QUINN AWARD

JACK WATKINS (2003): Assistant commissioner at the Missouri Valley Conference who persevered with his duties servicing the media while dealing with the lifelong illness and death at age 6 of daughter Kate.

JIM MARCHIONY (2004): Worked at the NCAA national office in various communications roles dealing with television and media relations for over 17 years, including the last five as media coordinator for the NCAA tournament. Now an associate athletics director at Kansas after serving in a similar capacity at Connecticut.

STEVE KIRSCHNER (2005): North Carolina sports information director since 2000 who is widely known for his efforts to help the media cover one of the highest profile college basketball programs in the country, particularly the hiring of Roy Williams as head coach and the handling of Dean Smith's retirement.

WAYNE DUKE (2006): As Walter Byers' assistant at the NCAA, Duke was assigned the task to write the USBWA constitution and spearhead efforts to organize an association of sports writers to promote college basketball. Duke was voted into the USBWA's Hall of Fame as a charter member in 1988.

JOE MITCH (2007): Associated with the USBWA since 1980, first as Tipoff editor, then Executive Director starting in 1983; created a Hall of Fame for the organization and initiated a sportswriting seminar awarding scholarships to high school and college students. Also, started a college basketball awards breakfast at the NCAA Final Four honoring the USBWA's player and coach of the year recipients.

JOSH KRULEWITZ AND MIKE SOLTYS (2008): The first co-winners of the award, Krulewitz and Soltys are ESPN media relations vice presidents who serve as the network's primary spokesmen. Krulewitz joined ESPN in 1990 and oversees publicity efforts for college sports, ESPNU, SportsCenter, ESPN Radio and ESPNEWS. Soltys, who was ESPN's first college intern in 1980, handles strategic planning for publicity for ESPN, ESPN2, ESPN Classic, ESPNEWS, ESPNU and ESPN on ABC.

JOHN PAQUETTE (2009): An associate commissioner for media relations at the Big East Conference since 1990 and a former SID at Seton Hall, Paquette was Commissioner Mike Tranghese's first hire at the Big East. "John has an incredible relationship with the media," said Tranghese. "He relies tremendously on relationships and on service. That's what I think the job is all about. John understands what the job is."

CHRIS FALLON (2010): Long-time media relations director for the National Invitation Tournaments in New York who was recognized for her continued quality of service to the media.

OLIVER PIERCE (2011): Sports Information Director at Gonzaga since 1988. Gonzaga's growth into a major national program in men's basketball coincides with Pierce's tenure at the university where he has managed increased media demands and national television appearances. He also directed an impressive media campaign that led to Adam Morrison sharing the Oscar Robertson player of the year trophy with Duke's J.J. Redick in 2006.

MOST COURAGEOUS AWARD

The U.S. Basketball Writers Association annually recognizes a player, coach, official or administrator who has demonstrated extraordinary courage reflecting honor on the sport of amateur basketball.

ARSALAN KAZEMI (2011): Sophomore forward who became the first Iranian-born athlete to play NCAA Division I basketball, having to endure bigotry and discrimination when he left Iran to play college basketball in the United States before eventually finding a home at Rice University.

BILQIS ABDUL-QAADIR (2011): Memphis State sophomore guard who is believed to be the first Muslim woman to play in Division I with her arms, legs and hair covered during games in accordance with her Muslim faith.

DAVE ROSE (2010): Brigham Young coach who overcame pancreatic cancer to guide the Cougars to an NCAA tournament berth in 2010.

TIFFARA STEWARD (2010): At 4-foot-6, she is thought to be the shortest collegiate player ever. She battled multiple permanent disabilities, including blindness in one eye, 50 percent hearing loss in both ears and severe scoliosis while playing at Farmingdale (NY) College.

KELVIN DAVIS (2009): San Diego State senior who continued to play for the Aztecs while undergoing chemotherapy and radiation treatments for Hodgkin's lymphoma.

JOSH PORTER (2008): Considered a walking miracle after returning to play for LSU-Shreveport following a life-threatening fractured neck vertebrae suffered in a game the previous season. Doctors said less than one percent of those who sustain injuries similar to Josh's ever regain movement or even live.

DUQUESNE UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL PROGRAM (2007): Coach Ron Everhart accepted the award on behalf of the team that had five players receiving gun shot wounds following a party on campus in the fall of 2006. Two of the players missed the entire season.

MIKE SUTTON (2006): The Tennessee Tech coach continued to coach while battling the paralyzing effects of Guillain-Barre Syndrome. In his fourth season at the school, he attended games and practices from his motorized wheelchair.

GRANT DYKSTRA (2005): Transformed himself into a college basketball player at Western Washington despite having a right arm that was several inches shorter than his left and having limited use of his right hand, the result of a farming accident at the age of 2 when his right arm was mangled in a grain auger. Taught himself to play left-handed and eventually went on to become Western Washington's leading scorer.

TREY SCHWAB (2004): Marquette assistant coach who received a double-lung transplant 26 months after being diagnosed with a rare and potentially deadly lung disease. Schwab continued to coach for two seasons despite undergoing six operations, spending 13 months on a portable oxygen machine and taking an experimental drug that slowed the disease.

RAYNA DuBOSE (2003): Remarkable story of one young lady's fight to overcome a near-fatal brain and spinal cord bacterial infection that eventually led to her losing parts of all four limbs following her freshman year on the Virginia Tech's women's basketball team.

MOST COURAGEOUS AWARD

JAMEL BRADLEY (2002): Deaf since he was 18 months old, Bradley overcame an 80 percent hearing loss to have an inspiring career at South Carolina. He led the Gamecocks in scoring his senior season and finished as the all-time career and single-season three-point scoring leader.

OKLAHOMA STATE (2001): Eddie Sutton, OSU head coach, accepted the Most Courageous Award on behalf of the Cowboy program after 10 members of the team died in a plane crash on a return trip home from a game at Colorado.

NATHAN BINAM (2000): A left-handed shooting guard for Oral Roberts University who returned to ORU's starting lineup for his senior year after sitting out one year following a car accident that resulted in Binam having to have the index finger on his shooting hand amputated above the knuckle.

EDDIE SHANNON (1999): Florida point guard who played his entire high school and college career with one eye because of an injury he suffered in seventh grade. He was hit in the right eye with a rock on the playground and had the eye replaced with a prosthesis prior to his senior year at Florida. He finished his career as Florida's all-time steals leader.

JACKY KABBA (1998): Jacky Kabba left his homeland, war-torn Liberia, to receive a college education and play basketball at Seton Hall University.

WES FLANIGAN (1997): Before the 1996-97 season began, the Auburn guard Wes Flanigan was diagnosed with cancer in his arm. After major surgery to cut out the malignant tumor, Flanigan returned to have an outstanding senior year for the Tigers.

CORINEE "CORI" CARSON (1996): The junior guard/forward at Division III Marymount University in Arlington, Va., returned to play basketball just one year after undergoing a liver transplant. She was within two hours of death before receiving a new liver. In her first game back Carson scored 29 points.

NOLAN RICHARDSON (1995): The veteran Arkansas coach overcame racial prejudice and the death of his daughter from leukemia in the process of establishing national powerhouse programs at Texas Western Junior College, Tulsa and Arkansas.

ORLANDO ANTIGUA (1994): University of Pittsburgh forward who overcame numerous obstacles growing up in a troubled New York neighborhood. Played his first two college seasons with a bullet in his head, the result of a street shooting incident while he was a sophomore at St. Raymond's High School in the Bronx.

JIM VALVANO (1993): Coached several schools, including Iona and North Carolina State where he led the Wolfpack to an NCAA title in 1983. Began a career in sports television before losing a year-long battle with bone cancer.

PETE PAVIA (1992): A long-time official in college basketball who battled cancer for 13 years while continuing to officiate games throughout the country.

ERIC MURDOCK (1991): A star player at Providence College who recovered from an irregular heartbeat and a series of nagging injuries to have a tremendous senior year for the Friars.

MOST COURAGEOUS AWARD

DONALD TAYLOR (1990): A homeless youngster from New York City who developed his basketball skills to a point of earning a scholarship to the University of Maine.

LANDON TURNER (1989): Former Indiana University player who returned to the playing court in a wheelchair basketball league after being paralyzed in an automobile accident in 1981, the summer after he made All-Final Four, as his team won the NCAA Championship.

STEVE KERR (1988): Senior guard at the University of Arizona who played a key role on the Wildcats' Final Four team. He overcame the tragic assassination of his diplomat father during his college career.

DAVID RIVERS (1987): He had a remarkable recovery from an automobile accident and returned to play at Notre Dame.

BOB WENZEL (1986): The basketball coach at Jacksonville who made a miraculous recovery from surgery to correct a brain aneurysm. He returned as JU's coach and led them to the NCAA tournament.

DENNIS SCHLITT (1985): He battled back from a life-threatening illness to play basketball at the U.S. Military Academy.

REGGIE WARFORD (1984): An assistant coach at Pittsburgh who rescued an elderly couple from their burning home in Lexington, Ky.

RONNIE CARR (1983): A Western Carolina basketball player who survived a serious automobile crash, overcoming post-operative lung and heart complications.

JOHN FLOWERS (1982): Overcame tremendous personal and physical problems to continue his career at Bowling Green.

MARK ALCORN (1981): A player on the LSU team who was a victim of cancer.

PHIL SCAFFIDI (1980): Cancer victim who played basketball at Niagara.

BILL WANSTRATH (1979): A one-armed basketball player who competed successfully at Batesville High School in Indiana.

JOHN KRATZER (1978): A cancer victim who played basketball at William & Mary.

RIISING STAR AWARD

The U.S. Basketball Writers Association annually recognizes journalistic excellence by members who are under 30 years of age.

2011 **Kevin Armstrong**, New York Daily News
2010 **Dan Wolken**, Memphis Commercial-Appeal