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USBWA, MAC To Honor The Nation's Best in College Basketball

The United States Basketball Writers Association and the Missouri Athletic Club have joined forces for a college basketball awards dinner on April 9 at the MAC's downtown location in St. Louis.

The USBWA and the MAC will partner on the dinner that will feature presentation of the Oscar Robertson Trophy to the national collegiate player of the year, the Wayman Tisdale Award to the freshman of the year and the Henry Iba Award to the coach of the year.

In addition, former Missouri and Hall of Fame coach Norm Stewart and retired referee Ed Hightower each will receive lifetime achievement awards.

"The MAC was the first to host this event in 2005," said USBWA president Vahe Gregorian, sports columnist for The Kansas City Star. "We are delighted to renew a partnership with the MAC and look forward to sharing this occasion with them."

"Hosting the USBWA awards fits perfectly with our Club's long history of celebrating excellence in amateur athletics," said Missouri Athletic Club Basketball Chairman Kevin Cantwell. "It's a tradition that goes back to the inception of our Club when MAC athletes participated in the 1904 Olympics and it continues today with our annual presentation of college soccer's Hermann Trophy. It's an honor that the USBWA has chosen the MAC to host the top awards in college basketball."

Reservations to the banquet are now available to MAC members by calling 314-539-4470. Reservations will be open to the public through collegebasketballawards.eventbrite.com beginning Tuesday, Feb. 20, at 10 a.m.

The player of the year award is named after one of the greatest players in college history, three-time All-American Oscar Robertson. The Robertson Trophy is the only player of the year award named for a player. The USBWA named the award after Robertson in 1998.

The Tisdale Award is named in honor of the late Oklahoma great, Wayman Tisdale. Tisdale was a three-time All American and in 1983, became the first freshman to be named an All-American by the USBWA. Tisdale passed away in 2009 following a courageous battle with cancer.

The legendary Henry Iba is recognized as one of the greatest coaches of all time. He won 655 games and coached the U.S Olympic teams to gold medals in 1964 and 1968 and a silver medal in 1972.

Stewart, a cancer survivor, is credited with creating the "Coaches vs. Cancer" program. The concept evolved into a nationwide effort to fight cancer and promote cancer awareness and prevention. Since 1993, the charity has raised over \$100 million for the American Cancer Society.

Stewart is a coaching icon. He coached 32 years at Missouri and posted a 634-333 career record. He led the Tigers to eight Big Eight Conference regular-season championships, six tournament titles and 16 NCAA Tournament appearances. He was elected to the College Basketball Hall of Fame in 2007. A bronze statue of Stewart was erected last year in front of the Mizzou Arena.

Hightower is regarded as one of the best referees ever to work college games. He was voted the Naismith Division 1 Men's College Basketball Official of the Year in 1992. He worked 12 NCAA Final Fours and was assigned to some of the biggest games in the country for nearly every major conference. He retired from officiating in 2013. A lifelong educator with 41 years of service in education, Hightower was superintendent of Edwardsville (Ill.) School District No. 7 before retiring in 2015.

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ABOUT THE USBWA

Formed in 1956, the United States Basketball Writers Association celebrated its 62nd year this season. The organization is comprised of some 900 members who cover college basketball for newspapers, magazines and websites. The primary goal of the USBWA has remained the same since its inception – to serve the interests of its members and to promote college basketball.

The USBWA annually selects a national player, coach and freshman of the year in college basketball and All-America teams for both men and women. The men’s player of the year award is named in honor of former Cincinnati All-American and NBA legend Oscar Robertson, who was the first recipient of the USBWA’s player of the year award in 1959. The women’s award is named for former UCLA standout Ann Meyers Drysdale.

The USBWA men’s coach of the year award is named for legendary Olympic and Oklahoma A&M, now Oklahoma State, coaching great Henry Iba. The men’s freshman of the year award honors the late Oklahoma All-American Wayman Tisdale.

The USBWA conducts a sports writing workshop annually at the NCAA Final Four for college and high school students. The USBWA also awards scholarships to students pursuing careers in sports journalism and to the sons and daughters of current members. Past and present members of the USBWA are also inducted each year into the USBWA Hall of Fame, honoring those who have made significant contributions to the USBWA and to the sports journalism profession.

In addition, the USBWA presents a Most Courageous Award for men and the Pat Summitt Courage Award for women to a player, coach, official or administrator in college basketball who demonstrates extraordinary courage in life. The USBWA also honors individuals in college basketball with the Katha Quinn Award for men and the Mary Jo Haverbeck Award for women for service to the media or for the inspiration they provide to those in the sports journalism profession.

ABOUT THE MISSOURI ATHLETIC CLUB

The Missouri Athletic Club was established in 1903 with the mission to be the premier athletic, business, social and dining club in the St. Louis region for its members and their families. Today, the MAC is recognized as a “Platinum Club of America,” an honor that places it in the top 5% of private clubs in the country. The MAC has two locations – the historic Downtown Clubhouse and the West County Clubhouse located in Town & Country.

“Athletic” has been at the center of MAC life since inception more than a century ago, when Club officials and athletes participated in the 1904 Olympic Games. That tradition of promoting athletic excellence has continued throughout its history and remains strong today through a variety of events. The MAC sponsors the annual High School Soccer All-Star Games at the Soccer Park. Since 1970, the MAC has hosted the Jack Buck Awards to honor the top sports figures in St. Louis. Since 1986, the MAC has annually presented the Hermann Trophy to the top male and female collegiate soccer players in the country.

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Oscar Robertson Winners

2017 Frank Mason III, Kansas
2016 Buddy Hield, Oklahoma
2015 Frank Kaminsky, Wisconsin
2014 Doug McDermott, Creighton
2013 Trey Burke, Michigan
2012 Anthony Davis, Kentucky
2011 Jimmer Fredette, BYU
2010 Evan Turner, Ohio State
2009 Blake Griffin, Oklahoma
2008 Tyler Hansbrough, North Carolina
2007 Kevin Durant, Texas
2006 Adam Morrison, Gonzaga; J.J. Redick, Duke
2005 Andrew Bogut, Utah
2004 Jameer Nelson, St. Joseph's
2003 David West, Xavier
2002 Jay Williams, Duke
2001 Shane Battier, Duke
2000 Kenyon Martin, Cincinnati
1999 Elton Brand, Duke
1998 Antawn Jamison, North Carolina
1997 Tim Duncan, Wake Forest
1996 Marcus Camby, Massachusetts
1995 Ed O'Bannon, UCLA
1994 Glenn Robinson, Purdue
1993 Calbert Cheaney, Indiana
1992 Christian Laettner, Duke
1991 Larry Johnson, UNLV
1990 Lionel Simmons, La Salle
1989 Danny Ferry, Duke
1988 Hersey Hawkins, Bradley
1987 David Robinson, Navy
1986 Walter Berry, St. John's
1985 Chris Mullin, St. John's
1984 Michael Jordan, North Carolina
1983 Ralph Sampson, Virginia
1982 Ralph Sampson, Virginia
1981 Ralph Sampson, Virginia
1980 Mark Aguirre, DePaul
1979 Larry Bird, Indiana State
1978 Phil Ford, North Carolina
1977 Marques Johnson, UCLA
1976 Adrian Dantley, Notre Dame
1975 David Thompson, N.C. State
1974 Bill Walton, UCLA
1973 Bill Walton, UCLA
1972 Bill Walton, UCLA
1971 Sidney Wicks, UCLA
1970 Pete Maravich, LSU
1969 Pete Maravich, LSU
1968 Lew Alcindor, UCLA
1967 Lew Alcindor, UCLA
1966 Cazzie Russell, Michigan
1965 Bill Bradley, Princeton
1964 Walt Hazzard, UCLA
1963 Art Heyman, Duke
1962 Jerry Lucas, Ohio State
1961 Jerry Lucas, Ohio State
1960 Oscar Robertson, Cincinnati
1959 Oscar Robertson, Cincinnati



Henry Iba Award Winners

2017 Mark Few, Gonzaga	1989 Bob Knight, Indiana
2016 Chris Mack, Xavier	1987 John Chaney, Temple
2015 Tony Bennett, Virginia	1986 Dick Versace, Bradley
2014 Gregg Marshall, Wichita State	1982 John Thompson, Georgetown
2013 Jim Larrañaga, Miami (Fla.)	1981 Ralph Miller, Oregon State
2012 Frank Haith, Missouri	1980 Ray Meyer, DePaul
2011 Mike Brey, Notre Dame	1979 Dean Smith, North Carolina
2010 Jim Boeheim, Syracuse	1978 Ray Meyer, DePaul
2009 Bill Self, Kansas	1977 Eddie Sutton, Arkansas
2008 Keno Davis, Drake	1976 Johnny Orr, Michigan
2007 Tony Bennett, Washington State	1975 Bob Knight, Indiana
2006 Roy Williams, North Carolina	1974 Norm Sloan, N.C. State
2005 Bruce Weber, Illinois	1973 John Wooden, UCLA
2004 Phil Martelli, St. Joseph's	1972 John Wooden, UCLA
2003 Tubby Smith, Kentucky	1971 John Wooden, UCLA
2002 Ben Howland, Pittsburgh	1970 John Wooden, UCLA
2001 Al Skinner, Boston College	1969 Maury John, Drake
2000 Larry Eustacy, Iowa State	1968 Guy Lewis, Houston
1999 Cliff Ellis, Auburn	1967 John Wooden, UCLA
1998 Tom Izzo, Michigan State	1966 Adolph Rupp, Kentucky
1997 Clem Haskins, Minnesota	1965 Bill Van Breda Kolff, Princeton
1996 Gene Keady, Purdue	1964 John Wooden, UCLA
1995 Kelvin Sampson, Oklahoma	1963 Ed Jucker, Cincinnati
1994 Charlie Spoonhour, Saint Louis	1962 Fred Taylor, Ohio State
1993 Eddie Fogler, Vanderbilt	1961 Fred Taylor, Ohio State
1992 Perry Clark, Tulane	1960 Pete Newell, California
1991 Randy Ayers, Ohio State	1959 Eddie Hickey, Marquette
1990 Roy Williams, Kansas	



Wayman Tisdale Award Winners

2017 Lonzo Ball, UCLA	2002 T.J. Ford, Texas
2016 Ben Simmons, LSU	2001 Eddie Griffin, Seton Hall
2015 Jahlil Okafor, Duke	2000 Jason Gardner, Arizona
2014 Jabari Parker, Duke	1999 Quentin Richardson, DePaul
2013 Marcus Smart, Oklahoma State	1998 Larry Hughes, Saint Louis
2012 Anthony Davis, Kentucky	1997 None selected
2011 Jared Sullinger, Ohio State	1996 None selected
2010 John Wall, Kentucky	1995 None selected
2009 Tyreke Evans, Memphis	1994 Joe Smith, Maryland
2008 Michael Beasley, Kansas State	1993 Jason Kidd, California
2007 Kevin Durant, Texas	1992 Chris Webber, Michigan
2006 Tyler Hansbrough, North Carolina	1991 Rodney Rogers, Wake Forest
2005 Marvin Williams, North Carolina	1990 Kenny Anderson, Georgia Tech
2004 Luol Deng, Duke	1989 Chris Jackson, LSU
2003 Carmelo Anthony, Syracuse	