



media information

1661 ramblewood drive • east lansing, mi 48823 • 517.332.5046 • fax - 517.332.4071 • www.mhsaa.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: John Johnson or Andy Frushour

April 3, 2001

517.332.5046 or www.mhsaa.com

First 40-Year Officials Group To Be Honored At Officials' Awards & Alumni Banquet On May 12

EAST LANSING, Mich. – April 3 – The Michigan High School Athletic Association's annual Officials' Awards & Alumni Banquet will honor for the first time this year, officials with 40 or more years of service, as well as those with 20 and 30-plus years of service to the interscholastic sports community. The 22nd edition of this banquet will take place on May 12 at the Sheraton Lansing Hotel at 7 p.m.

The 40-year award will be presented to 73 officials. In addition, 159 officials with 20 years, and 88 officials with 30 years of experience will be honored. With the induction of this year's select group, the honor roll of officials who have aided young student-athletes grows to 4,859 since the inception of the banquet in 1979.

The banquet will also feature the announcement of the 2001 recipient of the Vern L. Norris Award. The honor, named for the former MHSAA executive director, will be presented to an official with more than 20 years of experience who has been active in their local officials' association, has mentored other officials and has been involved in officials' education. Ted Wilson of East Detroit was the recipient of the inaugural award in 1992; Fred Briggs of Burton won the award in 1993; the 1994 recipient was Joe Brodie of Flat Rock; Jim Massar of Flint was honored in 1995; the 1996 winner was Jim Lamoreaux of St. Ignace; Ken Myllyla of Escanaba was the 1997 recipient; Blake Hagman of Kalamazoo received the award in 1998; Richard Kalahar of Jackson was the recipient in 1999; and last year, Barb Beckett of Traverse City and Karl Newingham of Bay City were honored.

The guest speaker for this year's event will be Michigan's outstanding leader of officials, Marcy Weston of Central Michigan University. An accomplished official at the high school level, and later nationally at the collegiate level, Weston was assigned to three NCAA Women's Final Four Basketball Tournaments. Her skills as an instructor, mentor and organizational leader led to her selection as a national Women's Basketball Interpreter at the collegiate level.

Tickets for the banquet are available to the public and are priced at \$15.00. Tickets will not be sold at the door. For additional information, contact Angie Butterwick at 517/332-5046.

-0-

(NOTE – A complete listing of officials to be honored, in alphabetical order by city, can be viewed by clicking [here—HTML](#) [PDF](#). We hope you will recognize any individuals from your area who have contributed over the years to interscholastic athletics. If you are interested in attending the banquet, contact Angie Butterwick at the MHSAA office for complimentary tickets.)

RL01-074

Farm Bureau Insurance & Little Caesars Pizza are year-round MHSAA Corporate Partners