October 7, 2014

Marion’s Steve Moritz to be honored with IHSAA Media Award

For Steve Moritz, it’s been a labor of love and that dedication will be honored this week as he’ll be presented with the 2014-15 IHSAA Distinguished Media Service Award for District 2.

Moritz’s contributions to high school athletics will be recognized on Friday evening during the Frankton-Eastbrook high school football game in Marion. IHSAA Commissioner Bobby Cox and Sports Information Director Jason Wille will make the presentation.

He’s been witness to, produced live reports, done play-by-play and color commentary on some of the greatest moments in Grant County sports history over the years. Working for Bomar Broadcasting, Mid-America Radio, and now Hoosier AM/FM Media Group, he’s been there for Marion’s last six state basketball championships, their titles in baseball and tennis, Oak Hill’s football state championship as well as Marion and Eastbrook’s respective runs for football glory.

Moritz has broadcast a daily radio show, appropriately called Moritz Sports since 1988 on WGOM Radio; WBAT Radio and 860 ESPN Radio in Marion and Grant County. During his show he spotlights a local athlete or team talking to coaches and players about their sport.

He is one of three individuals working for Hoosier AM/FM Media Group that have been recognized with this award joining Jim Brunner (1998-99) and Andy McCord (2012-13).

Moritz points to three moments during his youth that helped shape him.

His junior and senior years at Marion High School when his beloved Giants went to the boys basketball state finals in back-to-back years in 1968 and 1969 at Hinkle Fieldhouse.

The other was when his father, Robert, took 11-year old Steve to Notre Dame Stadium in 1961 and saw the Irish beat Syracuse 17-15 on a Joe Perkowski 41-yard field goal as time expired. That experience ignited his passion for Notre Dame football that continues today while reporting on the Irish for Fox Sports Radio Network and Network Indiana. Since 1964, Moritz has only missed five Irish home games while attending nearly 80% of their road games.

Moritz has also reported the Masters Golf Tournament for Network Indiana and his local radio stations for 15 years and provided extensive coverage of the Indianapolis 500 time trials on WGOM Radio for the last decade.

A 1973 graduate of Indiana State University with a business degree, Moritz and his wife Cathy have been married for 29 years. She is a former basketball player for the Marion Giants and currently serves as a member of the Board of Trustees for Marion Community Schools. They have one son, Connor, who is a freshman at Marion High School and plays on the varsity soccer team.

This is the 30th year the IHSAA has recognized outstanding members of the Indiana news media in the coverage of high school sports. District 2 covers 28 counties across northern and central Indiana. Moritz is the first of three individuals to be honored this school year. Previous Award Winners

***
About the Indiana High School Athletic Association, Inc. (IHSAA)
The IHSAA is a voluntary, not-for-profit organization that is self-supporting without the use of tax monies. Since its founding in 1903, the Association’s mission has been to provide wholesome, educational athletics for the secondary schools of Indiana. Its member high schools - public, institutional, parochial and private – pay no annual membership fee or incur entry fees to play in the Association’s tournaments. A state tournament series is conducted annually in 21 sports, 10 for girls, 10 for boys and one co-ed (unified track and field). A 19-person board of directors, elected by member school principals, governs the organization.

Media Contact
Jason Wille
Sports Information Director
Indiana High School Athletic Association, Inc.
jwille@ihsaa.org
(317) 846-6601