



## USA Today's Kelly Whiteside becomes president of FWAA

The Football Writers Association of America has completed another successful year, and the finish is chronicled in this issue of *The Fifth Down*.

In early January, the FWAA held its annual meeting in Los Angeles in conjunction with the Rose Bowl, the Bowl Championship Series' 1-2 game.

For the first time in the organization's 61-year history, a woman was named president of the FWAA. Kelly Whiteside of *USA Today* assumed the presidency. Her first column appears on Page 2.

Kelly succeeds Dave Sittler of the *Tulsa World*. Moving into the first vice president's position is Wally Hall of the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*. Dick Weiss of the *New York Daily News* was appointed second vice president.

We all need to give Dave a round of thanks for the excellent year he put in as president of the organization.

The FWAA's board for 2002

was appointed in Los Angeles as well and appears on Page 2 in the new masthead.

Winners of the Volney Meece Scholarship, the Bert McGrane Award, Grantland Rice Trophy and the FWAA/Eddie Robinson Coach of the Year Award also were announced in January.

Miami (Fla.) won the Grantland Rice Trophy, presented to the national championship team.

Patrick Davis, the son of FWAA member Ken Davis was named the winner of the Volney Meece Scholarship Award. Orville Henry, long-time FWAA member and Arkansas sports writer, won the McGrane Award. His named will be added to the FWAA plaque at the College Football Hall of Fame when in August.

Maryland coach Ralph Friedgen claimed the FWAA Coach of the Year Award on Jan. 10 in Scottsdale, Ariz.. And on the same day, Miami (Fla.) offensive tackle Bryant McKinnie received the Outland Trophy in Omaha.



February 2002

Vol. 40, No. 1

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# President's column



**KELLY  
WHITESIDE**

Over a few cold beverages and a warm fire at the Eddie Robinson Coach of the Year banquet with executive director Steve Richardson and Ted Gangi and Cody Monk, who manage the FWA website, ideas for this year kept flowing.

How can we improve the BCS mess? How can we ensure equal access for our members writing online? How can we improve the diversity of our membership?

Over the next few months, we plan to tackle these issues, the substantial ones that is. But, we need to hear from you. Please call or write with your concerns and suggestions. We will continue to focus on improving the press operations at the BCS games. This year's site, the Fiesta Bowl, has been excellent in the past. We should also look ahead to future sites such as the Orange Bowl, where there have been problems in the past.

As always, we will continue be vigilant about the game day issues that mean so much to us — enough phones in the press box, timely postgame access, final stats within an hour after a national championship game (Rose Bowl, that means you). Please let us know when you encounter problems. This summer I will attend the CoSIDA convention,

which will give us a chance to discuss those issues with sports information directors.

My thanks go to Dave Sittler who did a wonderful job this past year. I only hope to continue his fine work. Thanks, too, to Mark Blaudshun and Tom Shatel who led the way for both of us. It's certainly an honor to follow this group. I'm also proud be the first woman to serve as president in the FWA's 61-year history.

It's been an enlightening first month. During the course of the season, we get so wrapped up in our jobs that it's easy to forget all that FWA does. We know that the FWA gives out the Eddie Robinson, the Nagurski, the Outland and the Bert McGrane awards, the Grantland Rice trophy, the writing awards, the All-American team and the Volney Meece scholarship. But witnessing my first awards ceremony was eye-opening. For Ralph Friedgen too.

A few days before the Eddie Robinson Coach of the Year banquet, Friedgen had asked me what kind of an affair it would be. He was weary from so much travel. But when he arrived in Phoenix, he was treated to a first-class event, held at a resort, sponsored by America West and the Fiesta Bowl and televised by Fox Sports Net.

"What could be better than this?" Friedgen said after winning the award.

My thoughts exactly.

# Friedgen named coach of year

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. – Maryland's Ralph Friedgen claimed the 2001 FWAA/Eddie Robinson Coach of the Year Award on Jan. 10 during a banquet and Fox Sports Net television show from The Phoenician Resort.

The Football Writers Association of America Coach of the Year Award is named after the legendary Robinson, who has won more games than any coach in college football history — all at Grambling State. The FWAA has presented a Coach of the Year Award since 1957.

Washington State coach Mike Price, the 1997 FWAA Coach of the Year, and Illinois Coach Ron Turner were the other finalists. The winner was selected by vote of FWAA members.

Friedgen led Maryland to its first ACC title and bowl berth since 1985. Friedgen is the first coach from Maryland to win the award and the first ACC coach to capture the award since Georgia Tech's Bobby Ross in 1990. He is also just the second first-year head coach to win the award. Tom Cahill was the FWAA Coach of the Year in his first season as a collegiate head coach at Army in 1966. Friedgen is also just one of eight coaches to earn FWAA Coach



**Maryland coach Ralph Friedgen accepts the FWAA/Eddie Robinson Coach of the Year Award at The Phoenician Resort in Scottsdale, Ariz. The event was broadcast on Fox Sports Net.**

of the Year honors in his first season at his school.

Friedgen led Maryland to its first ACC title in 16 years during the 2001 season. In his first year as a head coach, Friedgen guided his alma mater to a 10-1 record and a berth in the Orange Bowl where the Terrapins lost to Florida. The Terrapins notched 10 victories for only the fifth

time in school history.

Friedgen was an assistant for 32 years before he became coach of the Terrapins a year ago. He came to Maryland from Georgia Tech, where he served for four years as the offensive coordinator. Friedgen also served as Bobby Ross' offensive coordinator at Maryland from 1982-86.

## FWAA COACH OF THE YEAR WINNERS

1957	Woody Hayes, Ohio State	1972	John McKay, USC	1987	Dick MacPherson, Syracuse
1958	Paul Dietzel, LSU	1973	Johnny Majors, Pittsburgh	1988	Lou Holtz, Notre Dame
1959	Ben Schwartzwalder, Syracuse	1974	Grant Teaff, Baylor	1989	Bill McCartney, Colorado
1960	Murray Warmath, Minnesota	1975	Woody Hayes, Ohio State	1990	Bobby Ross, Georgia Tech
1961	Darrell Royal, Texas	1976	Johnny Majors, Pittsburgh	1991	Don James, Washington
1962	John McKay, USC	1977	Lou Holtz, Arkansas	1992	Gene Stallings, Alabama
1963	Darrell Royal, Texas	1978	Joe Paterno, Penn State	1993	Terry Bowden, Auburn
1964	Ara Parseghian, Notre Dame	1979	Earle Bruce, Ohio State	1994	Rich Brooks, Oregon
1965	Duffy Daugherty, Michigan St.	1980	Vince Dooley, Georgia	1995	Gary Barnett, Northwestern
1966	Tom Cahill, Army	1981	Danny Ford, Clemson	1996	Bruce Snyder, Arizona State
1967	John Pont, Indiana	1982	Joe Paterno, Penn State	1997	Mike Price, Washington State
1968	Woody Hayes, Ohio State	1983	Howard Schnellenberger, Miami	1998	Phillip Fulmer, Tennessee
1969	Bo Schembechler, Michigan	1984	LaVell Edwards, BYU	1999	Frank Beamer, Virginia Tech
1970	Alex Agase, Northwestern	1985	Fisher DeBerry, Air Force	2000	Bob Stoops, Oklahoma
1971	Bob Devaney, Nebraska	1986	Joe Paterno, Penn State	2001	Ralph Friedgen, Maryland

# Grantland Rice Trophy goes to unbeaten Miami

LOS ANGELES – The Miami Hurricanes, capping a perfect 12-0 season with a 37-14 victory over Nebraska in the Rose Bowl, were named the 2001 winners of the Grantland Rice Trophy.

Football Writers Association of America president Kelly Whiteside of *USA Today* made the presentation to Miami coach Larry Coker at a news conference the morning after Miami's Rose Bowl victory. Miami was the unanimous choice of the FWA's five-member voting panel.

Miami won the Grantland Rice Trophy for the fourth time. The Hurricanes also won the Trophy in 1983, '87 and '89.

The FWA has presented the Grantland Rice Trophy to its national championship team since 1954. Oklahoma won last year, Florida State in 1999, and Tennessee in 1998. The last controversial winner was Michigan in 1997, which won the trophy in a split national championship. Nebraska won the coaches' poll, but the Wolverines won the writers' poll that season.

The five voters on the FWA panel this season were: Andy Bagnato, *Chicago Tribune*; Tony Barnhart, *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*; Mark Blaudschun, *Boston Globe*; Chris Dufresne, *Los Angeles Times*; and Richie Rosenblatt, *Associated Press*.



**FWA President Kelly Whiteside presents the Grantland Rice Trophy, which goes to national champion, to Miami coach Larry Coker.**

## GRANTLAND RICE TROPHY WINNERS

1954	UCLA	1966	Notre Dame	1979	Alabama	1992	Alabama
1955	Oklahoma	1967	USC	1980	Georgia	1993	Florida State
1956	Oklahoma	1968	Ohio State	1981	Clemson	1994	Nebraska
1957	Ohio State	1969	Texas	1982	Penn State	1995	Nebraska
1958	Iowa	1970	Nebraska	1983	Miami (Fla.)	1996	Florida
1959	Syracuse	1971	Nebraska	1984	BYU	1997	Michigan
1960	Mississippi	1972	USC	1985	Oklahoma	1998	Tennessee
1961	Ohio State	1973	Notre Dame	1986	Penn State	1999	Florida State
1962	USC	1974	USC	1987	Miami (Fla.)	2000	Oklahoma
1963	Texas	1975	Oklahoma	1988	Notre Dame	2001	Miami (Fla.)
1964	Arkansas	1976	Pittsburgh	1989	Miami (Fla.)		
1965	Alabama	1977	Notre Dame	1990	Colorado		
	Michigan St.	1978	Alabama	1991	Washington		

# Orville Henry wins McGrane Award

LOS ANGELES – Longtime Arkansas sports writer Orville Henry was named the winner of the 2002 Bert McGrane Award during the FWAA's annual meeting on Jan. 4.

The Bert McGrane Award, presented every year since 1974, goes to a member who has performed outstanding service to the organization and the writing profession. McGrane was one of the founding fathers of the organization.



Orville Henry, 76, is living in Malvern, Ark., and is still writing for the *Morning News of Northwest Arkansas* and the Donrey Media Group. His career spans nearly six decades. His picture is on the current FWAA Directory from a New Year's Day game at the Cotton Bowl during the 1950s.

**ORVILLE HENRY**

Henry was inducted into the Arkansas Hall of Fame last February. He was sports editor from 1943-82 and senior sports editor through 1988 of the defunct *Arkansas Gazette*. At that time, he joined the *Arkansas Democrat*. He went to work for the Donrey Media group in March 1996.

Henry is past president of the FWAA and the state of Arkansas chairman for the Heisman Trophy Selection Committee. He wrote one book with Jim Bailey, *The Razorbacks*, which was updated and rewritten in the mid-1990s.

The award will be presented to Henry during the Col-

## BERT McGRANE AWARD WINNERS

- 1974 Charley Johnson, Minneapolis Star
- 1975 Wilfrid Smith, Chicago Tribune
- 1976 Paul Zimmerman, Los Angeles Times
- 1977 Dick Cullum, Minneapolis Tribune
- 1978 Wilbur Evans, Cotton Bowl Athletic Association
- 1979 Tom Siler, Knoxville News-Sentinel
- 1980 Maury White, Des Moines Register
- 1981 Fred Russell, Nashville Banner
- 1982 Furman Bisher, Atlanta Journal
- 1983 John Mooney, Salt Lake City Tribune
- 1984 Si Burick, Dayton News
- 1985 Blackie Sherrod, The Dallas Morning News
- 1986 Raymond Johnson, Nashville Tennessean
- 1987 Tim Cohane, Look Magazine
- 1988 Dave Campbell, Waco Tribune-Herald
- 1989 Jim Brock, Cotton Bowl Athletic Association
- 1990 Jack Hairston, Gainesville Sun
- 1991 Murray Olderman, Newspaper Enterprise Association
- 1992 Volney Meece, The Daily Oklahoman/FWAA
- 1993 Bob Hentzen, Topeka Capital-Journal
- 1994 Edgar Allen, Nashville Banner
- 1995 Dick Herbert, Raleigh News & Observer/AFCA
- 1996 Bob Hammel, Bloomington Herald-Times
- 1997 Bill Lumpkin, Birmingham Post-Herald
- 1998 Don Bryant, University of Nebraska
- 1999 Field Scovell, Cotton Bowl Athletic Association
- 2000 Jimmie McDowell, All-American Football Foundation
- 2001 Edwin Pope, Miami Herald
- 2002 Orville Henry, Morning News of Northwest Arkansas

lege Football Hall of Fame induction ceremonies this coming August in South Bend, Ind.

# Patrick Davis wins Volney Meece Scholarship

LOS ANGELES – Patrick Davis, a freshman at the University of Kansas, has been selected as the fifth winner of the Volney Meece Scholarship.

The scholarship is awarded by the Football Writers Association of America and named for the late Volney Meece. Meece served 22 years as the FWAA's executive director and was the organization's president in 1971.

The scholarship is a \$1,000 grant for four years. It is

given to a deserving son or daughter of an FWAA member.

The 18-year-old Davis, who is from Coventry, Conn., is the son of FWAA member Ken Davis of the Hartford Courant. Enrolled in KU's school of education, Davis plans to teach English on the high school level.

Previous scholarship winners are Brett Goering, Topeka, Kan.; Kelley Brooks, Denver, Colo.; James Butz, Schaumburg, Ill.; and Sara Barnhart, Atlanta, Ga.

## A member sends his thanks

Letter to FWAA Executive Director, Steve Richardson

I've been the beat writer at Notre Dame for the past 11 years. I never really understood the benefits of the FWAA until last month.

During the entire month of December — which covered both coaching searches — I had to check out rumors from Boston to Seattle, to San Diego, to San Francisco, to Oakland, to San Jose, to Denver, to Oklahoma, to New Orleans, to Baton Rouge, to Atlanta, to Jacksonville, to South Carolina, to Tuscaloosa, to Minnesota and probably a few places in between.

To a man, every time I called a beat writer (my FWAA Directory is about shredded from use) he was very cooperative and made every effort to check with the coach

they cover or someone who would know to clarify the situation. A couple guys from Spokane and Tacoma gave up a Sunday off to help me chase down rumors about Washington State coach Mike Price.

I was taken by the feeling of fraternity that existed with everyone I dealt with. That's why I was hoping I could put a little "thank you" in the next *Fifth Down* just to tell everyone who got involved how much I appreciated their efforts.

Thanks for the opportunity.

Al Lesar  
*South Bend Tribune*

## Best Writing Contest Rules, Procedures

### Categories

Game/Event  
Game/Event (Loose Deadline)  
Feature Story/Profile  
Enterprise/Investigative  
Commentary/Analysis

You can begin sending entries now. You **MUST BE** an FWAA member. If you are not a member, you can submit \$40 and join the organization and then enter the contest.

1. Deadline: June 15, 2002
2. Limit: **One (1) article** per category.
3. Entries had to appear in print or on-line between Feb. 1, 2001, and Jan. 31, 2002.
4. Entries must be sent electronically via e-mail to

[contest@sportswriters.net](mailto:contest@sportswriters.net). Send MS Word or text files only. Do not send HTML files or links to stories on the internet or electronic libraries because links sometimes become inactive. Make your entry easy to read by taking out unnecessary carriage returns at the ends of lines, which can give your entry an odd look when opened in the judge's word processing program.

5. At the top of each entry, this information should be included: publication (on-line service), writer(s), category, and date of publication, plus an email address and telephone number for the writer(s) of the entry. The entries are being sent to a hot-mail account. They will be sorted and stripped of identifying information and forwarded to the judge(s).

6. Only entries sent electronically will be accepted.



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