

Kermit Rowe – 2011 Ohio High School Wrestling Coaches Association Media Service Award Recipient

Since 1995, a media member has been honored at the OHSA State Wrestling Tournaments for his or her outstanding dedication and service in covering the sport of interscholastic wrestling. The honoree will also be presented a plaque in ceremonies prior to the third session on Friday evening.

For the first two years of the award, the honoree was selected by state tournament management. Beginning at the 1996 state tournament, a system was established whereby media members covering the state finals select the winner for the following year. The previous winners have been:

- 1995: Mike Massa (deceased), WVIZ-TV, Cleveland
- 1996: Brian Brakeman, The Brakeman Report/WVIZ-TV, Cleveland
- 1997: Milan Zban (deceased), Akron Beacon Journal
- 1998: Pat Galbincea, Cleveland Plain Dealer
- 1999: Pete Carrothers, WBTC-Radio, Uhrichsville
- 2000: Judie Asp, Elyria Chronicle-Telegram
- 2001: Bob Preusse, Freelance Contributor
- 2002: Tim Warsinsky, Cleveland Plain Dealer
- 2003: Dan Fickel, Wrestling USA
- 2004: Tom Gaffney, Akron Beacon Journal
- 2005: Kelly Ducey, WMTR-Radio, Archbold
- 2006: Mel Peters, WBTC-Radio, Uhrichsville
- 2007: Jason Skoda, Lorain Morning Journal
- 2008: Brad Bournival, Medina County Gazette
- 2009: Jamie Baker, Findlay Courier
- 2010: Chuck Martinez, Defiance Crescent-News



This year's State Wrestling Tournament Media Service Award, sponsored by the Ohio High School Wrestling Coaches Association, is presented to Kermit Rowe of the Springfield News-Sun.

A Lorain native, Rowe has been covering high school wrestling for nearly 30 years at three different Ohio newspapers: the Geauga Times-Leader, Lorain Morning Journal, and his current position as the sports editor at the News-Sun, which he has held for the past 10 years.

His arrival at the Springfield News-Sun coincided with the rise to national prominence of one of the schools the paper covers – St. Paris Graham. "In this stage of my career, it's a pleasure watching a school go from good, to state champion to national champion," said Rowe.

Rowe has a true passion for covering wrestling, and has won numerous writing awards in his career, many for his wrestling coverage. His interest in the sport can be attributed to his own participation in wrestling at Lorain Clearview High School in the late 1970s.

He went on to graduate from Bowling Green State University in 1983, where he covered the end of wrestling on the campus for the school newspaper.

Rowe lives in South Vienna with his wife, Nancy, and has two sons, Aaron and Josh.