



MaxPreps, Inc. Named 2007-08 AVCA Grant Burger Media Award Recipient

LEXINGTON, Ky. – The American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) is proud to announce that MaxPreps, Inc., a division of CBS College Sports Network, has been selected as recipient of the 2007-08 AVCA Grant Burger Media Award.

The AVCA expanded the media award's scope in 2004-05 by having a finalist in four different categories: broadcast, print, web and sports information/athletic communications. Further, the finalist for the sports information/athletic communications category came from region winners from each of the NCAA divisions, with the addition of an NAIA winner being named this year as well.

AVCA Grant Burger Media Award Finalists

<u>Category</u>	<u>Finalist</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>
Broadcast	Kyle Doperalski	New Mexico State University Aggie Vision
Print	Dan Kauffman	<i>Hagerstown (Md.) Herald-Mail</i>
Web	George Mulry	www.LongmeadowVolleyball.com
Sports Info	Shamus McKnight	University of Nebraska

MaxPreps is the most visited high school sports website in the United States. Known as America's Source for High School Sports, MaxPreps publishes schedules, scores, league standings and rankings for tens of thousands of high school teams in a variety of sports. During the school year, MaxPreps serves more than 2.5 million visitors per month. The site, which highlights a wide range of varsity sports, including volleyball, contains over 10 million pages of content and roster information on more than 1 million high school athletes. Other features on the site include video game highlights, a photographers' network that is comprised of 5,000 galleries that consist of over 500,000 high-quality images provided by more than 500 professional photographers nationwide, and a seasoned core of high school beat writers.

"MaxPreps' work on behalf of volleyball is significant and critical to the development of our sport at the high school level," remarked AVCA Executive Director Kathy DeBoer. "MaxPreps' free service, which allows coaches to report their results and aggregate their statistics, is revolutionary in simplicity and functionality. We are proud to be able to call MaxPreps a promotional partner."

MaxPreps publishes information for each of the nearly 17,000 schools participating in girls' volleyball across the country. MaxPreps also provides high school coaches with free team pages, statistical software and a variety of other free services. The company was involved with the creation and implementation of the MaxPreps/AVCA High School Player of the Week program, which currently encompasses nine states, by sending the AVCA weekly results and statistics reports as criteria to use in the selection process and promoting the weekly recipients on the MaxPreps Web site, in hopes of becoming America's resource for high school volleyball information.

The company was founded in 2003 and acquired by CBS in March 2007.

"I am thrilled to accept the Grant Burger Media Award on behalf of MaxPreps.com," said MaxPreps President Andy Beal, upon learning of the honor. "MaxPreps made a major commitment to covering high school volleyball nationwide this past school year and we are gratified that our efforts are recognized by the AVCA. The MaxPreps team is looking forward to providing even more comprehensive coverage of high school volleyball this coming fall and in the years ahead."

Kyle Doperalski

Doperalski is the general manager of Aggie Vision and also the Aggie Sports Network Broadcast Coordinator. Aggie Vision, a regional television network comprised of affiliates such as FSN-Arizona, Altitude Sports, Comcast Entertainment Television and Time Warner Cable Metro Sports, was the brainchild of Doperalski and allowed New Mexico State University's athletics programs to be viewed in over 8,000,000 homes in 12 states. Viewers using Dish Network and DirectTV can also view Aggie contests, including volleyball, nationally, thanks to the great amount of time and detail that Doperalski devoted to the development and implementation of the network. He also took local radio coverage of volleyball into his hands, allowing the NMSU volleyball team to be heard on the radio for the first time. In addition, Doperalski acts as a play-by-play announcer for all broadcasts.

"Kyle has made a huge impact since he arrived at New Mexico State University for the athletic department and university as a whole," wrote Ashley Hardee, New Mexico State Associate Head Coach, in her nomination of Doperalski. "He has increased publicity for college volleyball and New Mexico State volleyball. His knowledge in the mediums of radio and television are pretty much unmatched in terms of being an originator, administrator, forward thinker and a high quality play-by-play announcer."

Dan Kauffman

Kauffman is a sports reporter for the *Hagerstown (Md.) Herald-Mail* newspaper, which serves the tri-state area of Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Maryland. He has been instrumental in selecting, honoring and publicizing the area's best players by his weekly column, weekly compilation and publication of statistics, regional rankings and the annual selection of All-County and All-Area teams. A religious attendee of high school matches nearly every evening of the week, he is assigned the article featuring the area's premier game of the week, and in the off-season he continues to report on club volleyball activities. In addition, Kauffman has helped kick-off and publicize the All-Star Spikefest, the first ever postseason all-star game for high school seniors in the region, and follows players as they progress into college, often reporting on the successes of area college players and teams.

"Dan Kauffman has been a shining light for our sport in the tri-state area. His insightful reporting and love of the game is evident in his writing," wrote Dr. Chip Zimmer, Chairman of the Tri-State FCA Volleyball Club, in his nomination of Kauffman. "In a part of the country where volleyball isn't as highly regarded as it is in California, Nebraska or Texas, he has helped bring the sport into the mainstream of our area's psyche and interest. I am convinced that without Dan's promotion of the sport, volleyball would be relegated to a secondary sport in our region."

George Mulry

Mulry is the head volleyball coach at Longmeadow High School in Westfield, Mass. Not only has Mulry established himself as a successful coach, but he has also taken extra steps in promoting his program, and volleyball as a whole, by launching www.LongmeadowVolleyball.com. Longmeadow High School is only one of a handful of schools in Massachusetts that has created and maintained a volleyball Web site for its team and the only school in Western Massachusetts to consistently post match statistics, game briefs and video clips, as well as local news content, after each match. Realizing that volleyball is not a mainstream sport in the state, Mulry has also created a "Fan Resources" page, including a downloadable Spectator's Guide, Guide to Referee's Signals, and statistics breakdown. In addition, he created a "Player Resources" page that includes information about college recruiting, position specific tips, a program handbook, articles, camps, etc.

"Coach Mulry has made a tremendous impact on volleyball in Western Massachusetts, both on and off the court," according to Longmeadow Athletic Director Michael Deary. "Coach Mulry and [LongmeadowVolleyball.com](http://www.LongmeadowVolleyball.com) are just another example of how coaches go far beyond their duties to give back to the sport they love, and give their players and sport the recognition they deserve."

Shamus McKnight

McKnight is the Assistant Media Relations Director at the University of Nebraska, an NCAA Division I institution located in Lincoln, Neb. Joining the staff in 1997, McKnight is responsible for all aspects of

media relations for the 2006 national champion volleyball team and the perennial-power Husker baseball team. McKnight has served for several years as the “voice” of the Husker volleyball program, handling the media needs of the volleyball crazed state and the Huskers’ national following. He also served as the content manager for the athletic department Web site, www.Huskers.com. Additionally, McKnight has devoted much time and planning and has served as the media coordinator for the Runza/AVCA College Volleyball Showcase, which has been held in Omaha, Neb. for two of the past three years and will serve as host site for the showcase through 2010, as well as the NCAA Championship in 2006 and 2008.

“Shamus is one of the most dedicated, hard working, and passionate sports information directors in the country, “ remarked Nebraska head coach John Cook. “Our team loves him and appreciates all of his effort and caring attitude toward our players. Shamus handles the media constituents in a very professional manner that generates a high level of respect for his work. Being the SID for Nebraska Volleyball has grown into a major assignment over the last couple of years, and Shamus has helped take our program to a new level.”

A list of the NCAA SID Region Honorees for the AVCA Grand Burger Media Award is listed below.

NCAA Division I Sports Information Director Region Honorees

Central Region	Shamus McKnight	University of Nebraska
East Region	Stephen Gorchov	Hofstra University
Mideast Region	Jen Armson	Penn State University
Midwest Region	Kevin Britton	Eastern Kentucky University
Northeast Region	Bill Thomas	University of Dayton
Pacific Region	Jason Pommier	University of Southern California
South Region	Sean Cartell	University of Kentucky
West Region	Jeffrey Seals	University of Nevada, Las Vegas

NCAA Division II Women’s Sports Information Director Region Honorees

Atlantic Region	Tom Burns	California University (Pa.)
Great Lakes Region	Brad Monastiere	Hillsdale College
North Central Region	Josh Deer	Concordia-St. Paul University
Northeast Region	Richard Lipe	Bentley College
Pacific Region	Paul Madison	Western Washington University
South Region	David Sherwood	Wingate University
South Central Region	Eric SanInocencio	Gulf South Conference
Southwest Region	Trey Reed	Midwestern State University

NCAA Division III Women’s Sports Information Director Region Honorees

Central Region	Vincent Novicki	Washington University in St. Louis
Great Lakes Region	Ryan Maurer	Wittenberg University
Mid-Atlantic Region	Kyle Leach	Swarthmore College
Midwest Region	Tom Fick	University of Wisconsin-Whitewater
New England Region	Mindy Brauer	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
New York Region	Robin Jonathan Deutsch	Vassar College
South Region	Douglas Blair	Emory University
West Region	Blake Timm	Pacific University (Ore.)

NCAA Division I-II Men’s Sports Information Director Region Honorees

EIVA	Jen Armson	Penn State University
MIVA	D.C. Koehl	The Ohio State University/ Midwestern Intercollegiate Volleyball Association
MPSF	Roger Horne	Pepperdine University

NCAA Division III Men’s Sports Information Director Region Honorees

EIVA	Brian Magoffin	Springfield College
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NECVA

Ira Thor

New Jersey City University/
North Eastern Collegiate Volleyball Association
Milwaukee School of Engineering

Midwest-III

Brian Gibboney

NAIA Sports Information Director Honoree

Chris Meyers

University of Virginia at Wise

About AVCA Grant Burger Media Award

The AVCA Grant Burger Media Award is an honor intended to recognize members of the media who have been involved in the advancement of the sport of volleyball, whether it be through consistent coverage in all mediums (sports information, print, broadcasting and web content), production of volleyball-specific publications or extensive radio and/or television exposure. It is named in honor of Grant Burger, former Director of Sports Information and Associate Director of the AVCA (1988-92), whose hard work, innovative mind, knowledge and enthusiasm took the areas of media relations and publications at the AVCA to a higher level and increased awareness of the sport of volleyball nationwide.

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