



5th Annual WOW Awards were a Huge Success

The 5th Annual “WOW” Awards (**Warren Outstanding Warrior Awards**) were held on Tuesday, May 21 at the Porterfield Baptist Church. The Awards Show honored the best of Warren Athletics for 2023-24 with the presentation of 23 awards to various athletes, coaches, teams, fans, and community members in a production similar to the ESPN Espy’s.

The evening featured an appearance by Brigadier General Andrew Stone, several other ranking officials of the Ohio Army National Guard, and Ohio State Football Assistant Coach Ed Terwilliger. During the show, WHS alum (class of 1968) David Eichhorn was honored with the “Hometown Hero” award for his service with the United States Army in Vietnam. SP5 Eichhorn was the 2023 Washington County Vietnam Veteran of the Year.

Following the Awards show, the “After Party” was held, offering food, drinks, ice cream, photos and fellowship.

Award Winners, presented by alums of the WHS sports program, included:

Top Team GPA – **Girls Cross Country**
Senior Scholar Athlete – Male – **Ben Bishop**
Senior Scholar Athlete – Female – **Maddie Stealey**
Play of the Year – **Mason Francis swims to two State Titles**
Moment of the Year – **Girls Basketball rallies from huge 4th quarter deficit to claim Sectional Title**
Fan of the Year – **John Coffman**
Makin’ A Difference Volunteer of the Year – **Joe Charleston**
Breakthrough Performance Award – **Jacob Sealey**
Strive for Excellence Award – **Mason Francis**
Courage Award – **Sophie Boothby**
Team of the Year – **Boys Basketball**
Coach of the Year – **Blane Maddox**
Freshman Athlete of the Year-Female – **Aubrey Pepper**
Freshman Athlete of the Year – Male – **Luke Rettenberger**
Sophomore Athlete of the Year-Female – **Sydney Starcher**
Sophomore Athlete of the Year – Male – **Tanner Pepper**
Junior Athlete of the Year-Female – **Mackenzie James-McGuire**
Junior Athlete of the Year – Male – **Mason Francis**
Senior Athlete of the Year-Female – **Kylee Tait**
Senior Athlete of the Year – Male – **Trent Taylor**

Woody Hayes Team of Excellence – **Volleyball**
Buckeye Excellence in Leadership Award – **Trent Taylor**
LBC Outstanding Warrior Award – **Kylee Tait**

The Title sponsor of the 2024 WOW Awards was the Ohio Army National Guard. Gold Sponsors for the event were WHS Athletic Boosters, Lighthouse Baptist Church, Washington State College of Ohio Student Veterans Club, and Porterfield Baptist Church.