

Elyria's Ike Maxwell Earns District Honors

Ike Maxwell, Elyria high school Pioneers' brilliant ball carrier, boosted his bid for all Ohio grid glory today when The Associated Press named him to share the honors as AAA 'Back of the Year' in the tough Northeastern Ohio district.

Splitting the 'back' accolade with Maxwell is Don Martin of Mentor.

Top lineman honors went to Doug Stubbs of Warren Harding's state titlists and Ken Kuhn of Louisville.

Maxwell and the brilliant Elyria defense kept Fremont Ross from an undefeated season, taking home a 15-7 victory, the only blemish on the Little Giant slate.

The Elyria flash is a Senior, 5 feet 10 and weighs 170.

The Mentor griddler, named to share honors with him, is also a Senior, 5-11 and weighs 180.

Another Elyria athlete made the first offensive team, Les Miles, a 6-foot 210 pound Senior guard being named to a guard spot on the 'dream' selection.

None of the Pioneer's defensive stars received mention.

Only other Buckeye Conference athletes to win Northeastern Ohio honors were Carlos Cato of Lorain King, second team offensive

end, and Bob Heflin, Lorain Senior, second team offensive guard.

Only Buckeye Conference members in the Northeastern Ohio area are Elyria and the two Lorain schools.

Bill Barton, the Elyria coach, finished close in the race for Coach of the Year, being edged out by Tom Batta, the Warren Harding mentor. Others high in the voting were Paul Starkey of Louisville and Don Bucci of Youngstown Mooney.

Three coaches shared the AA honor, Tony Napolet of Warren Kennedy, Dick Donovan of Cleveland Holy Name and Dave Pavlansky of Poland finishing in a tie.

The Class A coach is Denny Plas of LaGrange Keystone.

The backfield chosen to win AAA honors includes, in addition to Maxwell and Martin, Lou Williot, Youngstown Ursuline, 6-2, 195; Willie Spencer, Massillon's highly touted 6-4, 225 pound star; Len Sernulka, 6-foot, 205 - pound Warren Harding ace.

Akron Kenmore, Cuyahoga Falls, Mayfield, Alliance, Canton McKinley, Cleveland Benedictine, and Bedford put athletes on the AAA division's first offensive and defensive teams.