



September 10, 2009

## **The Press Club of Cleveland to Present the Second Annual Chuck Heaton Award to John Telich of WJW - FOX 8**

**CLEVELAND** – The Press Club of Cleveland will present the second annual **Chuck Heaton Award** at this year's Press Club Hall of Fame enshrinement dinner on October 28 at LaCentre in Westlake.

This year's recipient is **John Telich**, veteran WJW FOX 8 television sportscaster who has had a long and illustrious career in Cleveland.

Telich, who joined WJW in 1980, is a graduate of Ashland College and began his career in local radio in 1972 in Ashland. Telich anchors Fox 8 sports on weekends and produces a variety of features and serves as veteran correspondent on many key events, such as NBA Playoffs. For seven seasons, Telich hosted the Cavs pre-game show on Fox Sports Net.

In March 2007, Telich was inducted into the Cleveland Association of Broadcasters Hall of Fame. The nine time Emmy Award winner has won numerous awards for coverage of Cleveland sports. U.P.I., A.P., and the Press Club have also honored Telich. In 2001, Telich was honored by the Ohio High School Athletic Association for his long time coverage of high school sports.

A fitness buff, Telich has completed 90 triathlons over the past 24 years, including 3 Ironman Distance races. Ironman races entail a 2.4 mile swim, followed by a 112 mile bike ride and capped off with a 26.2 mile marathon run.

The Euclid High school graduate, a member of the school's Athletic Hall of Fame, has been married 33 years to the former Jane Quinton, his college sweetheart from Ashland College. They are the parents of three children, Courtney 32, Patrick 30, and Joseph 27.

Plain Dealer columnist **Terry Pluto** was the first recipient of the award in 2008.

**The Chuck Heaton Award** is bestowed upon the print, radio, or television journalist who best exemplifies the sensitivity and humility which, along with his writing talent, were traits exhibited by Chuck Heaton during his exemplary career at The Plain Dealer.

Press Club of Cleveland Board member John Betchkal was the driving force behind creation of the Heaton award. Betchkal and Heaton were friends when Betchkal worked at The Cleveland Press and Heaton was covering the Browns for The Plain Dealer. Selection of the first honoree will be made by the Press Club's Media Advisory Committee, composed of Cleveland media executives and Hall of Fame Committee.

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For more information contact: Ed Byers, President, The Press Club of Cleveland. [Ed.byers@mmoh.com](mailto:Ed.byers@mmoh.com), 330-507-9590