

Announcer earns national award

Former Ark City resident Rob Emery has been named the 2008-09 NASPAA Junior College Public Address Announcer of the Year.

The selection was made by the National Association of Sports Public Address Announcers, the professional association for sports public address announcers.

Emery, who now lives in Parsons, announces games for Parsons High School and Labette Community College, as well as Pittsburg State University.



*Courtesy Photo
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"I am truly humbled to be the recipient of this award," Emery said. "Being a PA announcer is more than just sitting behind a mic and talking. It takes dedication, desire and love of the profession."

Emery has been announcing for the past 28 years and has announced on the local, regional and national levels, including the NJCAA National Track & Field Meet and the NJCAA National Women's Basketball Tournament. He currently announces about 140 events each year.

"I hope that I can be a great ambassador for all PA announcers," Emery said. "It is an honor to represent the thousands of men and women who announce for their respective junior colleges. I would like to especially thank Labette Community College, the Kansas Jayhawk Community College Conference and the National Junior College Athletic Association for allowing me to be the PA voice for their sporting events. I would also like to thank the NASPAA for making this honor possible."

Emery grew up in Arkansas City and attended schools here, graduating from ACHS in 1971. He attended Cowley College and worked several years for the Ark City Police Department, before moving to Parsons in 1978 to work for the Missouri-Kansas-Texas Railroad. He began announcing at Labette in 1982.

"The NASPAA PA Announcer of the Year Awards Program is intended to pay tribute to PA announcers who demonstrate a high regard for professionalism," said Brad Rumble, NASPAA executive director. "Rob Emery represents the very best in PA announcing. We could not be more pleased that he is our junior college announcer of the year."

Above: Longtime public address announcer Rob Emery, a former Ark City resident who now calls games in Parsons, was recently named the announcer of the year by the National Association for Sports Public Address Announcers.