

Battaglia gets MVP award

Senior linebacker Matt Battaglia was named Most Valuable Player for the University of Louisville football team during last night's awards banquet at the Galt House East.

Battaglia, a 6-foot-2, 215-pounder from Lithonia, Ga., was the Cardinals' defensive leader and recorded 166 tackles, 98 of them solo. He also was given an award as the outstanding defensive back.

Quarterback Ed Rubbert, another senior, was presented the Head Coach's Award. Rubbert, who started U of L's first two games, was replaced by Jay Gruden and then took over again for the final four games after Gruden suffered a knee injury, completed 103 of 210 passes for 1,304 yards and four touchdowns.

Senior tackle Bruce Armstrong, who was named to The Associated Press All-South Independent first team, earned the outstanding offensive lineman award.

Sophomore halfback Deon Booker, the Cards' leading rusher with 516 yards and five TDs on 112 carries, was named the outstanding offensive back.

Other awards:

Outstanding defensive lineman — Junior tackle Chris Thieneman.

Special teams — Freshman Keith Stephens, who returned 42 kickoffs for 901 yards and 28 punts for 261 yards.

Frank Camp Award for academics — Freshman halfback Craig Swobek, a marketing major.

Johnny Unifas Award for most inspirational player — Senior defensive end Mike Minoque, who started 42 consecutive games before being sidelined by a knee injury for the final two games of the season.

Outstanding defensive lineman Junior Tackle Chris Thieneman 12 10 1986

