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CSPN Holds 6TH Annual Awards Banquet To Honor 2011 Local Sports Accomplishments

CINCINNATI (May 14, 2012) – The 6th annual Cincinnati Sports Professionals Network (CSPN) Awards Banquet will pay tribute to athletes, sports professionals, and events for their accomplishments in 2011 on Wednesday June 6, 2012 at 6 pm at the Sharonville Convention Center. Joe Morgan, will make a special guest appearance and local media personality, George Vogel, will emcee the event.

Tickets, which include dinner and the program, cost \$75 per person or \$700 for a table of 10. Student tickets are also available for \$35. FOR VIP, which includes a private reception with Joe Morgan & all award recipients before the event are \$100/person or \$900/table of ten.

Tickets and sponsorships are selling fast! but there are a few sponsorship opportunities still available. The 6th annual CSPN banquet is brought to you by Presenting Sponsor Skyline Chili and the following partners: Greater Cincinnati Sports Corporation, Clear Channel, Cincinnati Enquirer, Flying Pig Marathon, Prestige Audio Visual, Keating Muething & Klekamp PLL, Crush Republic, Trophy Awards and Game Day Communications.

Proceeds from the event go toward the CSPN scholarship fund. To inquire for a sponsorship or to make a reservation, call Leslie Spencer at 513.345.3054 or email LSpencer@CincyUSA.com. Cincinnati Sports Professional Network serves as a networking organization for area sports professionals offering regularly scheduled programs and an annual awards ceremony for the sports business community. CSPN is a program of the Greater Cincinnati Sports Corporation.

“This annual event is an opportunity to acknowledge some of the people who have played a part in the Cincinnati and NKY becoming nationally-recognized sports destination and one of the best places to play, coach and watch the sports we love, said Mike Moeddel, GCSC chair. “We look forward to celebrating another successful year for the Greater Cincinnati Sports Corp. and everyone with whom we work.”

CSPN Annual Award Winners Categories Recipients are nominated by individuals and businesses throughout the region. The CSPN selection committee is comprised of a cross-section of our membership; criteria are based on the following: 1) success, 2) measurable impact to the community, and 3) local connection.

Award Recipients include:

- **Sports Story:** Cincinnati Bengals 2011 Season
- **Sports Life Time Achievement-** Larkin Family
- **Sports Executive-** Charley Frank, Reds Community Fund
- **Corporate Partner-** Western & Southern Financial Group
- **Sports Event** – Kentucky Speedway NASCAR Sprint Cup
- **Sports Media Personality** – Betsy Ross
- **CSPN Scholarship Student-** T. Marie Strickland, University of Cincinnati
- **Comeback Stories:** Alison Delgoda, Amber Gray, Dan Fleming

Speaker Bio:

Hall of Fame second baseman Joe Morgan officially joined the Cincinnati Reds organization on April 21, 2010, when he was named senior advisor to President of Baseball Operations and General Manager Walt Jocketty. Morgan's duties include assisting in the development and cultivation of the Reds' baseball operations organizational philosophy and in player development strategy, along with assisting in the development of the club's community outreach and diversity initiatives.

A 10-time All-Star and five-time Gold Glove Award winner, Morgan spent 8 of his 22 Major League seasons with the Reds, playing in four World Series and winning back-to-back World Series championships in 1975-'76 as a member of the legendary Big Red Machine.

He was named the National League's Most Valuable Player in 1975 and 1976 and received the league's Comeback Player of the Year Award in 1982. Before ending his career in 1984, Morgan had established a new career home run record for second basemen (266) and is currently third on that list.

After being enshrined in the Reds Hall of Fame in 1987, Morgan was elected to the National Baseball Hall of Fame on the first ballot in 1990 and currently serves as the vice chairman of the Hall's board of directors. Morgan also serves on the board of directors for the Baseball Assistance Team (BAT) and the Jackie Robinson Foundation.

Known for his community interest and support of youth programs, Morgan is a contributor to the Young America Baseball Program, the Oakland Unified School District Sports Program and is founder and president of the Joe Morgan Youth Foundation, which provides college scholarships and financial support to programs that are instrumental in the development of youth.

A two-time Sports Emmy Award winner, Morgan was the lead baseball analyst on ESPN from 1989-2010 and previously broadcast for ABC, NBC, Giantsvision and SportsChannel