The 2010-11 Mid-American Conference basketball season is winding down and the final two weeks of the season are loaded with extremely important games. When all the games are final and the First Energy MAC Championship Tournament seeds are set, they will toss the balls in the air and teams will do battle with the tournament championship, and automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament, on the line.

With the teams going after each other on the floor the MAC season-ending individual awards will be determined. Over the next few days the top candidates for 2010-11 MAC Player of the Year, Freshman of the Year, Defensive Player of the Year and Coach of the Year will be discussed here on STOhd.com, Ohio's home for MAC Basketball.

Here we will start with Player of the Year. Tomorrow the candidates for Freshman of the Year will be profiled. This weekend STO's contenders for Defensive Player of the Year and Coach of the Year will be discussed.

SportsTime Ohio's nominees for 2010-11 Mid-American Conference Player of the Year:

Xavier Silas (Northern Illinois), 6-foot-6, Senior, Combo Guard

NORTHERN

EASTERN
33

OHIO
5

[redacted]