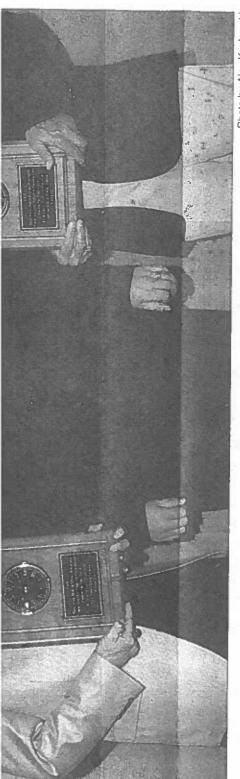


Don Clegg, executive sports editor of The Intelligencer and Wheeling News-Register, presents Larry Shaw of Oak Glen, left, and Reno Saccoccia of Steubenville Big Red with Bill Van Horne/News-Register OVAC Coach of the Year plaques during Monday night's 22nd annual OVAC Banquet of Champions at WesBanco Arena in Wheeling. View additional photos at cu.theintelligencer.net. 10 0 M





Don Clegg, executive sports editor of The Intelligencer and Wheeling News-Register, presents Larry Shaw of Oak Glen, left, and Reno Saccoccia of Steubenville Big Red with Bill Van Horne/News-Register OVAC Coach of the Year plaques during Monday night's 22nd annual OVAC Banquet of Champions at WesBanco Arena in Wheeling. *View additional photos at cu.theintelligencer.net.* Photo by Alex Kozlowsk

## 

#### Saccoccia, Shaw net top honor

Assistant Sports Editor By JIM ELLIOTT

Steubenville's Reno Saccoccia and Oak Glen's Larry Shaw probably faced as much pressure as any coaches in the Ohio Valley heading into their respective 2006-07 seasons.

Saccoccia and his Big Red football team were coming off a wrestlers had won 10 consecutive state title. Shaw and his Oak Glen West Virginia Class AA-A state wrestling championships, tying the Parkersburg High boys' tennis 5-0 season and a Division III

sports consecutive title-winning teams of 1976-85 for an all-And almost everyone expected record in the state.

Saccoccia and Shaw to continue involved in their respective pro-To their credit, along with the players and everyone else grams, they did just that. that success.

ored Monday night as the Bill annual OVAC Banquet of Cham-As a result, the two were hon-Van Horne/News-Register OVAC Coaches of the Year at the 22nd pions at WesBanco Árena.

1969, when the award was created, that two coaches have been so honored. (Others occurred in It's just the third time since

Magnolia baseball coach Dave Cisar, Bishop Donahue boys' bas-Wheeling Central football coach ketball coach Tom Wise, and Mike Young were also among the five finalists. 1974 and 1992).

"It's certainly an honor and it's an exciting evening." Shaw said. "I'm so gratified to receive the award. It's simply a result of what our kids have been able to accomplish and what

in our program And we've been extremely suc-cessful. That doesn't come by accident. It comes has put into this.

with a lot of work and dedication Shaw said his selection surand sacrifice." prised him.

"Because of the field," he coaches. Just to get to the five deserving. ... I didn't think I had a said. "There's so many great finalists was an honor and the other four candidates, I think were shot."

ual state champion. Shaw's Gold-Even without a single individ-

ing 168.5 points to runner-up en Bears nearly lapped the field at this season's state tourney, scor-Point Pleasant's 86.5, as they etched their names in state histo-

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everyone involved

Saccoccia, who won the award time winner, guided his team to exactly the same thing it had done the season before - a 15-0 last season and is its only fourrecord and another Division III

He was named Ohio Division Coach of the Year by ONN/Ohio III Coach of the Year by The Associated Press for the second straight season and was also chosen as Ohio's all-class Football state title.

High magazine.

"Any time you win something that takes a team effort, it's very gratifying." Saccoccia said.

Please See BEST, Page 16



INTELLIGENCER and News-Register Executive Sports Editor Don Clegg is flanked by OVAC Co-coaches of the year Larry Shaw (Oak Glen) and Reno Saccoccia (Steubenville). Photo/ALEX KOZLOWSK

By JIM ELLIOTT For The Times Leade

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State wrestling che Parkersburg High box 85 for an all-sports state title. Shaw and h won 10 consecutive Saccoccia and hi were coming off a 1 in the state. record

And almost every

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## - B2 FIMES LEADER - Tuesday, May 15, 2007

## Coach

Continued from Page B1

Shaw said his selection surprised him. "Because of the field." he said. "There's so many great coaches. Just to get to the five finalists was an honor and the other four candidates, I think were deserving. ... I didn't think I had a shot."

Even without a single individual state champion, Shaw's Golden Bears nearly lapped the field at this season's state tourney, scoring 168.5 points to runner-up Point Pleasant's 86.5, as they etched their names in state history. Shaw also won this award in 2000.

Saccoccia, who won the award last season and is its only four-time winner, guided his team to exactly the same thing it had done the season before – a 15-0 record and another Division III state title.

He was named Ohio Division III Coach of the Year by The Associated Press for the second straight season and was also chosen as Ohio's all-class Football Coach of the Year by

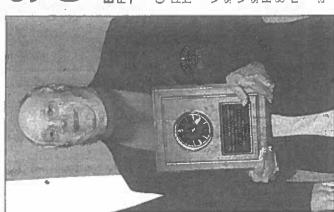
ONN/Ohio High magazine.

"Any time you win something that takes a team effort, it's y gratifying." Saccoccia said. "Let's face it, I wouldn't be here without a great team effort out of our players, our coaches, and our parents. I just appreciate everything they do and I'm accepting this award on their behalf. very gratifying."

As with any award, there were no losers. Wise and his staff led the Bishops to a remarkable 19-2 season and a spot in the

W.Va. Class A state title game. Young and his Maroon Knights won their second consecutive W.Va. Class A state football title. And Cisar was able to enjoy the crowning moment in one of the finest careers of a high school baseball coach in West Virginia last June when his Blue Eagles captured the W.Va.

There were plenty of other honors going handed out with the many scholarships presented annually at the banquet. Class AA state title.



Editor Don Clegg is flanked by Glen) and Reno Saccoccia Photo/ALEX KOZLOWSKI

## Saccoccia, Shaw share VAC

By JIM ELLIOTT For The Times Leader

Steubenville's Reno Saccoccia and Oak Glen's Larry Shaw probably faced as much pressure as any coaches in the Ohio Valley

heading into their respective 2006-07 seasons.
Saccoccia and his Big Red football team
were coming off a 15-0 season and Division III
state title. Shaw and his Oak Glen wrestlers had
won 10 consecutive West Virginia Class AA
state wrestling championships, tying the
Parkersburg High boys' tennis teams of 1976-85 for an all-sports consecutive title-winning record in the state.

And almost everyone expected Saccoccia

and Shaw to continue that success.

To their credit, along with the players and everyone else involved in their respective programs, they did just that.

As a result, the two were honored Monday

night as the Bill Van Horne/News-Register OVAC Coaches of the Year at the 22nd annual OVAC Banquet of Champions at WesBanco Arena.

award was created, that two coaches have been so honored. (Others occurred in 1974 and It's just the third time since 1969, when the 1992).

Magnolia baseball coach Dave Cisar, Bishop Donahue boys' basketball coach Tom Wise, and Wheeling Central football coach Mike Young were also among the five finalists.

evening." Shaw said. "I'm so gratified to receive the award. It's simply a result of what our kids have been able to accomplish and what everyone involved in our program has put into That doesn't come by accident. It comes with a 'It's certainly an honor and it's an exciting And we've been extremely successful, lot of work and dedication and sacrifice. this.

See, COACH, Page B2

# Finalists for OVAC Coach of Year set

By DON CLEGG For The Times Leader Coaches and athletes from all corners of the Ohio Valley will be Flocking to Wheeling's WesBanco Arena Monday night for the 22nd annual OVAC Banquet of Champions.

Doors open at 5:30 p.m. with the proceed-

ings getting under way at 6:30.

A total of 36 college scholarships totalling more than \$27.000 will be awarded to some of the conference's top scholar-athletes and 63 OVAC championship teams from the 2006-07 school year will be on hand to pick up their championship banners.

Several major awards will also be presented highlighted by the announcement of the

Bill Van Horne/News-Register OVAC Coach

of the Year,

The award is named in honor of the late BiH Van Horne, a charter member of the OVAC Hall of Fame who spent more than a half-century chronicing the careers of Ohio Valley coaches

half-century chronicling the careers of Ohio Valley coaches and athletes as sports editor at The Times Leader and

Wheeling News-Register.
The selection was made by the OVAC Coach of the Year committee, which solicited nominations from media members throughout the OVAC coverage area.

Although each media person could nominate only one coach from each sport, the results still provided quite a challenge for the selection committee.

When OVAC executive secretary Tom Rataiczak finished compiling the results, a total of 53 coaches had been nominated for consideration in 18 different sports.

The committee pared that list down to five finalists and made its final selection from that

Listed in alphabetical order, this year's five finalists for the Bill Van Horne/News-Register OVAC Coach of the Year are:

■ Dave Cisar, Magnolia (baseball)

Reno Saccoccia, Steubenville (football)
 Larry Shaw, Oak Glen (wrestling)

See, COACH, Page B2

receive the award. It's simply a result OVAC co-Coach of the Year along with involved in our program has put into exciting evening. I'm so gratified to accident. It comes with a lot of hard work and dedication and sacrifice." named Bill Van Horne/News-Register of what our kids have been able to "It's certainly an honor and it's an successful. That doesn't come by Oak Glen's Larry Shaw upon being this. And we've been extremely accomplish and what everyone Steubenville's Reno Saccoccia

here without a great team effort out of our players, our coaches, and our parents. I just appreciate everything they do and I'm accepting this award on their behalf." "Let's face it, I wouldn't be (Continued from Page 15)

staff led the Bishops to a remarkable 19-2 regular season and a spot in the W.Va. Class A state title game. Young and his Maroon Knights won their As with any award, there Wise and his third consecutive W.Va. Class A state football title, And Cisar was able to enjoy the crowning moment in one of the finest ball coach in West Virginia last June when his Blue Eagles captured the W.Va. Class AA state careers of a high school basewere no losers.

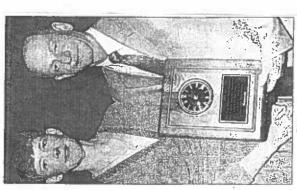
There were plenty of other honors going handed out with the many scholarships presented annually at the banquet.

They Were:
They Were:
Bodkin, Wilson & Kozicki Soccer
Scholarships
Alligon Martinell, Linsiy
Cal Giffin Memorial Track
Service Award

Kim Dallison, Valley
Clare Kapral Track Scholarship
Lauren Bauer, Wheeling Central
Daniel M. Burke Wrestling Scholarship
James Myers, Indian Creek
Dave Bierkortte Award

James Myeers, Indian Creek
DeLuca Realty Volleyball Scholarship
Brandi Beebe, Edison
Douglas S, Piliney Memorial Golf
Scholarship

ocnolarship
Dylan Mercer, John Marshall
Football Officials' Scholarship
Kevin Snyder, Magnolia
George Kovalick Wrestling Scholarship
Daniel Felton, Brooke



Oak Glen's Larry Shaw, OVAC co-Coach of the Year, poses with his wife, Cindy, on Monday night in Wheeling. Photo by Afex Kozlowsk View additional photos

cu theintelligencer net.

OVAC Basketball Coaches Clinic Scholarship Scholarship OVAC Boosters Scholarship OVAC Boosters Scholarship Sarah Wrickham, Indian Creek Sarah Pryor, Paden City Infany Dolan, Wheeling Park Stean Green, St. Clarsville Lessica Harlan, Steubervalla Catholic Chark Minder, Buckeve Trail Richard Hitt, Linsty Michael Lyons, Cambridge OVAC Cheering Scholarship Kelsay Jendrusik, Union Local

OVAC Softball Scholarship

Shannan Veyon, Paden City OVAC Track Scholarship Travis Croxall, Eas' Liverpool

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## (Continued from Page 15)

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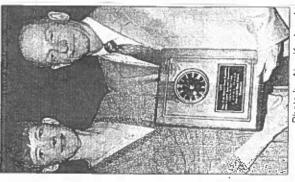
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They Were: Bodkin, Wilson & Kozicki Soccer Scholarships

Allison Martinelli, Linsiy Cal Giffin Memorial Track Service Award

Kim Dallison, Valley
Clare Kapral Track Scholarship
Clare Rapral Track Scholarship
Lauren Bauer, Wheeling Central
Daniel M. Burke Wrestling Scholarship
James Myers, Indian Creek
Dave Bierkortre Award
James Myers, Indian Creek
Davia Realty Volleyball Scholarship
Brandi Beebe, Edison
Douglas S, Pilney Memorial Golf
Dylan Mercer, John Marshall
Football Officials' Scholarship
Kavin Snyder, Magnolia
George Kovalick Wrestling Scholarship
Mery Lazasz Baskerball Scholarship
Codey Haddox, Zanesville
Jusin Lowe, Iyler Consolidated
James "Deed Eye" Morris
Wrestling Scholarship
Kroger Food and Drug Scholarship
Marissa Melanko. Shadyside
Jessica Camphell, Cambridgo
Lucas D, Sedgmer Memorial
Scholarship

Eric Diagosta, East Liverpool Matt Salsberry Wrestling Scholarship Tim Osbon, Oak Glen OVAC Baseball Scholarship Patrick Ohrman Jr., Linsly



poses with his wife, Cindy, on Monday night in Wheeling, View additional photos at cu.theintelligencer.net. Photo by Alex Koziowsk Glen's Larry Shaw, OVAC co-Coach of the Year, Oak

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Kathryn Jones, Bellaire Scholastic Sports Management Scholarship Megan Gialiuco, Brooke Mara Bowman, Buckeye Local Samuel A. Mumiey Memorial Scholarship

Jill Lytton, Shadyside Stephen E. Hannig Memorial Scholarship John Allen Zumpetta, Brooke WesBanco Scholarship Sean Eagan, Camer

### Coach

## Continued from Page B1

Bishop Wise, Donahue (basketball) Tom

■ Mike Young, Wheeling

As always, there seemed to Central (football)

In football alone, there were coaches like John Magistro, who led his final Bellaire High who be more near-misses than football team to a second straight undefeated regular Ty Fleming, whose Shadyside gridders rolled all the way to posted his first unbeaten reguar season at Cambridge; and the Ohio Division VI champiseason; Rick Goodrich. onship game. finalists.

Class AA championship while Bellaire St. John Central's Bubba Kapral's Lady Irish claimed their second straight Ohio Division III runnerup fin-There were two outstanding candidates in girls' track. Weir High's Paul Stevens led his Red Riders to a West Virginia ISh.

Other sports weren't lack-

West ing for worthy candidates. Leo Boissy's Wheeling school's first-ever West Virginia Class AAA tennis Park boys brought home the crown.

Brad Lineback turned more than a few heads when his Buckeye Trail girls' basketball team opened the season on a school-record 19-game winning streak.

Knights to a West Virginia Wheeling Central co-coaches Ambrose Bober and Rick Magruder took the Maroon Class A state title.

Brooke's Chris Stucin guided her Bruins to their seventh straight West Virginia Class AAA cheering championship.

Needless to say, the 2006-07 school year was a very good year for OVAC coaches and athletes alike.

When the OVAC Coach of at Monday night's banquet, he will be the 41st honoree since Bridgeport's Frank Baxter won the inaugural award in 1969. the Year is announced

Following are brief capsules on this year's five finalists:

Dave Cisar

II). 2005 and 2006, his Big Red teams were state runner-sup in 1987 and 1988.

None of the players he'll welcome back to this year's roster have ever lost a regular season game. Big Red carries a 40-game regular-season win streak into the 2007 season.

Reno was last year's OVAC Coach of the Year and is the only three-time winner of the award, having won previously in 1985 and 1989.

#### Larry Shaw (Oak Glen)

Shaw made history last winter by leading his Oak Glen wrestling team to its 11th straight West Virginia Class A-AA state championship.

ing a tie with the Parkersburg High boys' tennis teams of 1976-85. The most impressive thing That's the longest streak in Mountain State history, break-

about this year's championship run was that the Golden Bears had no individual state chaming fashion. Oak Glen's 168.5 points nearly doubled the 86.5 pions but still won in dominatamassed by runnerup Point Pleasant.

have been just as successful on the home front. They set the stage for their state championship run by winning their fourth Ron Mauck OVAC Shaw and his Golden Bears Wrestling Tournament title in

the past six years. The veteran Shaw is no stranger to coaching awards. He's the only wrestling coach in West Virginia history to win the state High School Coach of the Year Award, which covers

He's been a finalist for the OVAC Coach of the Year Award on several occasions and was the 2000 OVAC Coach of the Year Award winall sports.

#### (Bishop Donahue) Tom Wise

Wise led his Bishop Donahue record and a berth in the West basketball team to a 23-3 Virginia Class A state championship game.

The Bishops were an impressive 19-2 during the regular season but it was their postseason run that grabbed

One of the winningest high school baseball coaches in the

(Magnolia)

first state championship trophy last spring when his Blue Eagles blasted Liberty Harrison, 10-1, in the Class AA final.

was the charm as Cisar had taken Magnolia to the state championship game in 1984 and 2003 only to come up just short. He also led three Blue Eagle football team to the state Apparently, the third time finals but came away emptyhanded.

2006 National Federation of High School Coaches and was a Mideast Sectional Baseball Coach of the Year by the finalist for the national Coach of the Year Award. The of the Year Award. The Mideast Section includes all high school coaches in the West Virginia. Virginia, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Delaware and the District of Kentucky named was Maryland, states of He

The winningest baseball coach in Ohio Valley history, Cisar is currently in his 34th season as head baseball coach at Magnolia and just passed the 700-win milestone earlier this month.

retired Intelligencer sports editor Doug Huff, there are fewer than 30 active coaches in the nation with as many career According to research by than 60 coaches all-time with wins and records show fewer 700 or more wins.

Award on several occasions for both baseball and football. Cisar has been a finalist for the OVAC Coach of the Year

Reno Saccoccia

(Steubenville)

Reno led Steubenville to its second straight 15-0 season and Division III state title, capping it with a thrilling 34-33 Alter in victory over Kettering

the championship game.

To no one's surprise. Saccoccia was named Ohio Division III Coach of the Year by The Associated Press for

the second straight season.

He was also chosen as Football þ ONN/Ohio High magazine. Year Ohio's all-class the Jo Coach

Last year marked the 10th unbeaten regular season and 11th regional championship in career coaching record now stands at a dazzling 241-45 24 years for Saccoccia, whose

pionships in 1984 (Division Along with his state cham-

They started out by shocking No. 1-ranked Wheeling Central, 52-43, in the sectional final, ending a streak of five consecutive state championship game appearances by the Maroon Knights.

Valley to earn the school's Donahue followed that up with an 81-52 romp over

first regional title and state tourney berth in 10 years.

The Bishops opened state tournament play by coasting to a 63-47 win against No. 4-seeded Tucker County in the quarterfinals before stunning No. 1 seed Gilbert - the state's last remaining unbeaten team - by a 72-64 count in the semifinals. That mag

around for a program that went just 1-22 two years ago when season marked a monumental turnthis year's seniors were sophomagical mores.

Mike Young

Columbia.

(Wheeling Central)

Young has won back-to-back Class A state championships In two seasons as head football coach at his alma mater, and compiled a glittering 24-4 record.

tory and Central will carry a 19-game winning streak into the 2007 season.

Young's squad didn't take Last year's team posted the first 14-0 season in school his-

title défense as the Knights beat five Class AA and one the easy road to its successful Class AAA team during the regular season.

Included among their Class A regular-season victims was a powerful Shadyside squad that ended its season by playing for the Ohio Division VI state championship.

was matched against unbeaten owner of a - in the state championship game at Wheeling Island Stadium and handed the Yellowjackets a 56-game regular season win-Central Williamstown Wheeling ning streak

14-7 loss. Young cut his coaching teeth as an assistant to a pair of working for George Strager at St. Clairsville and Jim Thomas at Wheeling Central. legends. coaching OVAC

head coach at St. Clairsville after Strager retired and posted a 51-41 record before leaving Thomas's staff at He spent 9 seasons as Central in 1996. ioin 0



Line

## By DON CLEGG

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■ Larry Shaw, Oak Glen (wrestling) ball)

Tom Wise, Bishop Donahue (basketball)

As always, there seemed to be more ■ Mike Young, Wheeling Central (football)

regular season at Cambridge; and Ty Fleming, whose Shadyside gridders rolled all the way to the Ohio Division VI In football alone, there were coaches like John Magistro, who led his final Belaire High football team to a second straight undefeated regular season; Rick Goodrich, who posted his first unbeaten near-misses than finalists. championship game.

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See. Bottom Line. Page B4

## **BOTTOM LINE**

Continued from page B1

Other sports weren't lacking

for worthy candidates. Leo Boissy's Wheeling Park school's first-ever West Virboys brought home the

a Class AAA tennis crown. Brad Lineback turned more than a few heads when his Buckeye Trail girls' basketball team opened the season on a school-record 19-game win-

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Wheeling Central co-coaches Knights to a West Virginia Class A state title. Brooke's Chris Stucin guided Magruder took the Maroon Ambrose Bober and Rick

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Needless to say, the 2006-07 school year was a very good year for OVAC coaches and When the OVAC Coach of the Year is announced at tomorrow night's banquet, he will be the 41st honoree since Bridgeinaugural award in 1969. Following are brief capsules on this year's five finalists: port's Frank Baxter won the athletes alike.

Dave Cisar (Magnolia)

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#### (Bishop Donahue) **Fom Wise**

Wise led his Bishop Donahue basketball team to a 23-3 record and a berth in the West Virginia Class A state champi-

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The Bishops were an impressive 19-2 during the regular season but it was their postseason run that grabbed everybody's attention.

They started out by shocking No. 1-ranked Wheeling Cenfinal, ending a streak of five 52-43, in the sectional consecutive state champitral.

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The Bishops opened state tournament play by coasting to state's last remaining unbeaten a 63-47 victory against No. 4 seeded Tucker County in the quarterfinals before stunning by a 72-64 count in No. 1 seed Gilbert team

the semifinals.
That magical season marked monumental turnaround for a program that went just 1-22 two years ago when this season's seniors were sophomores.

Mike Young (Wheeling Central)

and compiled a glittering 24-4 In two seasons as head foot-ball coach at his alma mater, Young has won back-to-back Class A state championships record.

Last season's team posted the first 14-0 season in school history and Central will carry a

19-game winning streak into the 2007 season. Young's squad didn't take the easy road to its successful title defense as the Knights beat five Class AA and one Class AAA

ended its season by playing for the Ohio Division VI state team during the regular season. Included among their Class A regular-season victims was a powerful Shadyside squad that championship.

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Brooke's Chris Stucin guided her Bruins to their seventh straight West Virginia Class AAA cheering championship.

Needless to say, the 2006-07 school year was a very good year for OVAC coaches and athletes alike.

When the OVAC Coach of the Year is announced at tomorrow Following are brief capsules on night's banquet, he will be the 41st honoree since Bridge-port's Frank Baxter won the inaugural award in 1969. this year's five finalists:

Dave Cisar

son game.

first state championship trophy last spring when his Blue Eagles blasted Liberty Harri-son, 10-1, in the Class AA nation, Cisar brought home his One of the winningest high school baseball coaches in the (Magnolia) final.

Apparently, the third time was the charm as Cisar had taken Magnolia to the state champi-onship game in 1984 and 2003 only to come up just short. He also led three Blue Eagles football teams to the state finals but came away empty-handed.

He was named 2006 Mideast Sectional Baseball Coach of the Year by the National Federation of High School Coachnational Coach of the Year Award. The Mideast Section includes all high school coach-es in the states of West Virginia, Virginia, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Kentucky. Delaware and the District of es and was a finalist for the Columbia.

The winningest baseball coach in Ohio Valley history. Cisar is currently in his 34th season as head baseball coach at Magnolia retired Intelligencer sports editor Doug Huff, there are fewer than 30 active coaches in the nation with as many career vicand just passed the 700-victory lories and records show fewer than 60 coaches all-time with 700 or more victories. milestone earlier this month. According to research by

Award on several occasions for both baseball and football. Cisar has been a finalist for the OVAC Coach of the Year

To no one's surprise. Saccoccia was named Ohio Division III Coach of the Year by The Associated Press for the sec-He was also chosen as Ohio's all-class Football Coach of the ond straight season.

Year by ONN/Ohio High mag Last season marked the 10th azine.

unbeaten regular season and 11th regional championship in 24 years for Saccoccia, whose career coaching record now stands at a dazzling 241-45

Along with his state champi-onships in 1984 (Division II). teams were state runnersup in 1987 and 1988. 2005 and 2006, his Big Red

None of the players he'll wel-come back to this season's roster have ever lost a regular sea-

Reno was last year's OVAC Coach of the Year and is the only three-time winner of the regular-season wining streak into the 2007 season. Big Red carries a 40-game

award, having won previously in 1985 and 1989. Larry Shaw (Oak Glen)

Shaw made history last winter by leading his Oak Glen wrestling team to its 1 lth straight West Virginia Class A-AA state championship.
That's the longest streak in
Mountain State history, breaking a tie with the Parkersburg
High boys tennis teams of last winter

onship run was that the Golden Bears had no individual state The most impressive thing about this season's champiamassed by runnerup Point champions but still won in dominating fashion. Oak Glen's 168.5 points nearly doubled the 86.

onship run by winning their fourth Ron Mauck OVAC Wrestling Tournament title in the past six seasons.

The veteran Shaw is no have been just as successful on the home front. They set the stage for their state champi-Shaw and his Golden Bears Pleasant.

56-game regular season win-

- in the state

ning streak

Award on several occasions and was the 2000 OVAC Coach of stranger to coaching awards.

He's the only wrestling coach
in West Virginia history to win
the state High School Coach of the Year Award, which covers s been a finalist for the OVAC Coach of the Year the Year Award winner. all sports. He

season but it was their postseasive 19-2 during the regular son run that grabbed everybody's attention.

Saccoc-

They started out by shocking No. I ranked Wheeling Central, 52-43, in the sectional tral, 52-43, in the sectional final, ending a streak of five onship game appearances by consecutive state champithe Maroon Knights.

with an 81-52 romp against Valley to earn the school's first regional title and state tourney Donahue followed that up berth in 10 years.

tournament play by coasting to state's last remaining unbeaten quarterfinals before stunning No. 1 seed Gilbert – the by a 72-64 count in seeded Tucker County in the a 63-47 victory against No. The Bishops opened state team

the semifinals. That magical season marked monumental turnaround for a two years ago when this sea-son's seniors were sophoprogram that went just 1-22 mores.

Mike Young

(Wheeling Central) In two seasons as head foot-ball coach at his alma mater, Young has won back-to-back and compiled a glittering 24-Class A state championships record.

19-game winning streak into the 2007 season.
Young's squad didn't take the Last season's team posted the first 14-0 season in school history and Central will carry a

easy road to its successful title defense as the Knights beat five Class AA and one Class AAA Included among their Class A team during the regular season.

regular-season victims was a powerful Shadyside squad that ended its season by playing for the Ohio Division VI state - owner of a Wheeling Central was matched against unbeaten Williamstown championship.

championship game at Wheel ing Island Stadium and handed the Yellowjackets a 14-7 loss. Young cut his coaching teeth working for George Strager at St. Clairsville and Jim Thomas as an assistant to a pair of OVAC coaching legends. at Wheeling Central.

after Strager retired and posted a 51-41 record before leaving to join Thomas's staff at Central in 1996. He spent nine seasons as a head coach at St. Clairsville