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The Times Leader

# SPORTS

SECTION

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Sunday,  
May 15, 2016

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## OVAC Coach of the year finalists named

By **SETH STASKEY**  
Times Leader Sports Editor

**WHEELING** – On both sides of the river, it's been quite the athletic year for prep teams throughout the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference.

On Monday, at WesBanco Arena in downtown Wheeling, the athletes and coaches will be honored for their accomplishments both on the playing surface as well as in the classroom at the annual Banquet of Champions.

While championship banners will be presented, five coaches will receive special recognition. They are the finalists for the Bill Van Horne OVAC Coach of the Year, which has been presented annually

since 1969.

The finalists include: Chris Daugherty (Wheeling Park football), Sean Grinch (Shadyside wrestling), Jillian Ongley (Shadyside softball), David Tallman Jr. (Morgantown basketball) and Jason White (Morgantown girls basketball).

The winner will be announced prior to the distribution of the banners. The banquet will begin at 6:30 p.m.

Here's a capsule look at the nominees in alphabetical order:

**CHRIS DAUGHERTY**, Wheeling Park – The Patriots entered the 2015 football season with high expectations. And with Daugherty leading the way, the expectations turned into the school's first state football championship.

After beginning the season with a tie against Bridgeport, the Patriots got on a roll. They stubbed their toe only once during the regular season, which was against Brooke. They entered the West Virginia Class AAA playoffs as the third seed with an 8-1-1 record.

Park racked up three consecutive lopsided victories en route to the Super Six. The Patriots defeated Spring Valley (37-14) and South Charleston (41-0) on their home field. They went on the road to knock off Point Pleasant, 35-14, in the state semifinals.

That set the state for Park's first appearance in the Super Six since 1991. Inside a jam-packed Wheeling Island Stadium, Park

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took down Capital, 23-15, for the brass ring. In the process, it allowed the Patriots to avenge their playoff loss to the Cougars from 2014.

Along with the state championship, Wheeling Park also claimed the OVAC championship for the fifth time.

**SEAN GRINCH**, Shadyside – This third-year coach led his alma mater's wrestling program to some new heights this past winter.

The Tigers became the first Belmont County program to advance to the OHSAA Team Wrestling Program when they defeated Coshocton in the regional championship match. They didn't stop there.

Shadyside also claimed the school's ninth OVAC dual-meet title overall and second in three years. Shadyside finished with a 16-6 dual-meet record. They were impressive in tournament competition, too. They finished a program-high third overall in the annual Ron Mauck OVAC Wrestling Tournament and rolled to the Class 1A/2A title thanks to seven placers.

The Tigers also captured titles at Union Local, Waterloo, Shadyside and Williamstown. They won the Division III sectional title at Barnesville and finished second in the district, advancing four to the individual state tourney Columbus. There, they were led by junior Greg Quinn, who finished as the state runnerup.

**JILLIAN ONGLEY**, Shadyside – Last spring, this veteran Lady Tigers' softball coach led her team to the unthinkable.

When the Ohio postseason began, Shadyside wasn't ranked in the state's final softball poll or even the top seed in its own sectional. However, when the dust settled on the prep season with then freshman Kaitlyn Weaver sliding into home plate at Akron's Firestone Stadium, the Shadyside Lady Tigers were state champions with a

1-0 victory against Triad. It prevailed by an identical score, but in eight innings, in the state semifinals against New Reigel.

En route to the state title, Shadyside, which finished the season 22-5, captured a district and regional crown along the way.

The Tigers finished as OVAC Class 2A runnerup, falling to Steubenville Catholic Central.

**DAVID TALLMAN**, Morgantown – It hasn't taken long for this Mohigans' coach to put his stamp on the program.

The Magnolia High graduate led the Mohigans to the school's first West Virginia State Basketball Championship thanks to a thrilling 65-62 victory against Huntington in March in just his second year at the helm.

Not only did the Mohigans cut the nets down, but they also finished the season with a spotless, 27-0 record. Along the way, Morgantown claimed the OVAC 5A title, which was their third consecutive and second straight with Tallman on the bench.

**JASON WHITE**, Morgantown – Make it three-for-three for this Mohigans' girls basketball coach.

With White calling the shots, Morgantown claimed its third consecutive West Virginia Class AAA championship and finished the season with an impressive 25-1 record.

Like the boys, the Mohigans had to get past Huntington in the state championship game. With Division I signee Sydney Holloway leading the way, Morgantown prevailed, 61-56 in the state title game.

En route to the state championship, Morgantown laid claim to its third consecutive OVAC 5A title and yet another regional championship. They were the top seed in the state tournament.

With their third straight big school title, Morgantown became the first since North Marion in 2009-11 to post the three-peat.

Local/State/National

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Sunday News-Register

MAY 15, 2016

# SPORTS

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## Five Nominated for OVAC Coach of Year Award

### Honor Named After The Late Bill Van Horne

By **SETH STASKEY**  
For the News-Register

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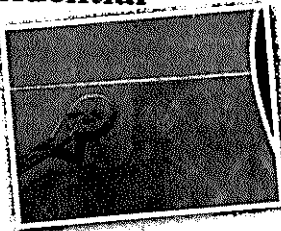
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# SPORTS

Tuesday  
May 17, 2016

## OVAC honors Ongley Shadyside coach lauded for Cinderella season

By **BUBBA KAPRAL**  
Executive Sports Editor

WHEELING — She did what many thought was impossible last spring

Jillian Ongley took the Shadyside High softball team on the ultimate of Cinderella rides. The affable head coach deftly and amazingly guided her Tigers to the Division IV state championship.

The memorable journey came to a thrilling climax at Akron's Firestone Stadium on Saturday, June 6, via a 1-0 decision over North Lewisburg Triad. The championship game ended in dramatic fashion as the

Orange scored the winning run on a suicide-squeeze bunt in the bottom of the eighth inning.

The elongated state-title contest triumph capped a remarkable 8-game run through the postseason as an unranked squad. The Tigers outscored their post-season foes by a lopsided 34-8 margin.

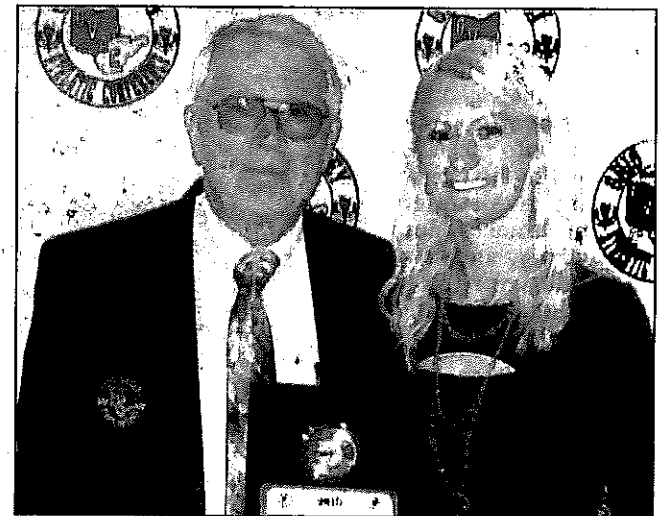
As a result, Ongley was honored Monday night at WesBanco Arena as the recipient of the Wheeling News-Register/Bill Van Horne OVAC Coach of the Year Award during the 31st annual Banquet of Champions.

She becomes the first softball coach to receive the prestigious

award. Ongley was selected from a quintet of finalists which included Wheeling Park football coach Chris Daugherty, Morgantown boys' basketball coach Daye Tallman, Shadyside wrestling coach Sean Grinch and Morgantown girls' hoop coach Jason White.

In addition, Ongley is just the third female to be awarded the honor. She joins Wheeling Park's Dee Davis (1998) and Magnolia's Nikki Hardman (2005) — both basketball coaches — to gain that distinction.

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Page B2



T-L Photo/BUBBA KAPRAL

**SHADYSIDE HIGH'S** Jillian Ongley was named the winner of the Wheeling News-Register/Bill Van Horne OVAC Coach of the Year Award during the 31st annual Banquet of Champions. She is pictured with OVAC Executive Secretary Tom Rataiczak.

## OVAC

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"I don't have many remarks prepared. I am totally surprised," Ongley said upon receiving the coveted award.

"It was an unbelievable accomplishment and made even nicer by all the support we received from the Ohio Valley.

"It was a great honor to represent the premier athletic conference in the state tournament. The OVAC is truly special," she continued. "It was an honor to coach such a special group of girls."

Ongley's coaching prowess was tested early. The Tigers found themselves sitting at 3-3 after suffering consecutive losses to Bridgeport and Toronto, respectively. She, however, was able to right the ship as the Orange went on an 11-2 run to close the regular season.

"I want to thank my husband and my family for all their support during our tournament run. Also my athletic director John Triveri was a great help all the way through," Ongley said. "My coaching staff and the parents of our players deserve so much credit. And the support we received from everyone at Shadyside High was just unbelievable."

Shadyside finished as OVAC Class AA runnersup last spring, bowing to Steubenville Catholic Central in the title game.

Ongley was assisted last year by Dave Ragase, Joe Weaver, Jaclyn Johnson and Amy Games.

# Ongley Honored As Coach of Year



Shadyside High School's Jillian Ongley was named the winner of the Wheeling News-Register/Bill Van Home OVAC Coach of the Year Award during the 31st annual Banquet of Champions. She is pictured with former Intelligencer Sports Editor Doug Huff.

Photo by Bubba Kapral

## Shadyside softball coach guided Tigers in Cinderella season

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## COACH

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