

The 33rd Annual



**WESBANCO ARENA
MONDAY, MAY 14, 2018**

*Serving the Youth of the Upper
Ohio Valley*





WELCOME

As we conclude the 75th year of the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference, we hold the final event of the spring - the 33rd Annual Banquet of Champions. On this special anniversary of the Conference we not only celebrate the accomplishments of the scholar-athletes, coaches, and championship teams for the school year, but we also commemorate the Conference itself. I am honored to be part of the Conference and its dedicated service to the youth of the Ohio Valley.

This evening, seventy-four championship teams, thirty-nine scholarship winners, five Overall Champions, five Thomas Auto Center Cups, and the Coach-of-the-Year will be honored. Also tonight school banners will be given to each school to acknowledge all the championships won by each school during their time in the Conference. You are commended for your dedication and accomplishments.

The Banquet committee, the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference, and our corporate sponsors congratulate you and your outstanding success. We are hoping this evening will be another special memory of a successful year.

Molly Feller
Banquet Chairperson

2018 OVAC BANQUET OF CHAMPIONS Program

Welcome Molly Feller, Banquet Chairwoman

National Anthem Landon Talbert, Crestview

Invocation Steve Kish, Past President

Dinner Dianna's Catering

Master of Ceremonies Scott Nolte

Sponsor Comments:
Huntington Bank Kelly Baker

OVAC Comments:
Corey Murphy, President Marshall County Schools
Assistant Superintendent
Thomas E. Rataiczak Executive Secretary/Treasurer

Overall Champions (presented by Past Presidents)

1A	Madonna High School
2A	The Linsly School
3A	Wheeling Central High School
4A	St. Clairsville High School
5A	Wheeling Park High School

Thomas Auto Center Cup (presented by Robert and Brian Thomas)

1A	Cameron High School
2A	The Linsly School
3A	Wheeling Central High School
4A	St. Clairsville High School
5A	Wheeling Park High School

Scholarship Presentations

OVAC Bill VanHorne Coach-of-the-Year	Doug Huff	
Penn Kurtz	Basketball	Wheeling Central High School
Reno Saccoccia	Football	Steubenville High School
Shaun Smith	Wrestling	Parkersburg South High School
Lou "Scooter" Tolzda	Basketball	Meadowbrook High School
Mike Young	Football	Wheeling Central High School

Presentation of School Banners OVAC Executive Board

THOMAS AUTO CENTER CUP

**CLASS 1A:
Cameron High School**

**CLASS 2A:
The Linsly School**

**CLASS 3A:
Wheeling Central Catholic High School**

**CLASS 4A:
St. Clairsville High School**

**CLASS 5A:
Wheeling Park High School**

OVERALL CHAMPIONS

**CLASS 1A
Madonna High School**

**CLASS 2A
The Linsly School**

**CLASS 3A:
Wheeling Central Catholic High School**

**CLASS 4A:
St. Clairsville High School**

**CLASS 5A:
Wheeling Park High School**



COACH OF THE YEAR

Penn Kurtz

Basketball

Wheeling Central High School

Reno Saccoccia

Football

Steubenville High School

Shaun Smith

Wrestling

Parkersburg South High School

Lou "Scooter" Tolzda

Basketball

Meadowbrook High School

Mike Young

Football

Wheeling Central High School

OVAC CHAMPIONS 2017 - 2018

GOLF:

1A-2A	Madonna	T. J. Brancazio
3A	Wheeling Central	Jim Mortakis
4A	Cambridge	Kevin Smith
5A	Wheeling Park	Don Headley

GIRLS' SOCCER:

1A-3A	Wheeling Central	Julie Barack
4A	Oak Glen	Ryan Wells
5A	Wheeling Park	Carrie Hanna

BOYS' SOCCER:

1A-3A	Steubenville Catholic	Steve Kopcha
4A	Steubenville	Greg Bowers
5A	University	Dustin Talton

GIRLS' CROSS COUNTRY:

1A-2A	Caldwell	Dugan Hill
3A	Bellaire	Chris Arno
4A	St. Clairsville	Tony Cirolli
5A	University	Ed Fronhapfel

BOYS' CROSS COUNTRY:

1A-2A	Caldwell	Dugan Hill
3A	Bellaire	Chris Arno
4A	Cambridge	Jamie Durkee
5A	Morgantown	Mike Ryan

VOLLEYBALL:

1A	Paden City	Fred King
2A	Southern Local	Bob Shansky
3A	Buckeye Trail	Jeff Beros
4A	East Liverpool	Jonathan Stokes
5A	John Marshall	Chelsea Eikleberry

FOOTBALL:

1A	Cameron	Scott Holt
2A	Linsly	B. J. Depew
3A	Union Local	Bruce Stiles
4A	St. Clairsville	Brett McLean
5A	University	John Kelley

GIRLS' SWIMMING:

1A-4A	St. Clairsville	Ernie Banks
5A	Wheeling Park	Pat Durkin

BOYS' SWIMMING:

1A-4A	St. Clairsville	Ernie Banks
5A	Wheeling Park	Pat Durkin

CHEERING:

1A	Madonna	Maria Canella
2A	Toronto	Samantha Provenzano
3A	Wheeling Central	Jessica Becker
4A	St. Clairsville	Shawn Tomlan
5A	Wheeling Park	Shawna Shepherd

OVAC CHAMPIONS 2017 - 2018

DUAL MEET WRESTLING:

1A-2A	Shenandoah	Jesse Wells
3A	Barnesville	Jayson Stephen
4A	Steubenville	Mike Blackburn
5A	Parkersburg South	Shaun Smith

GIRLS' BASKETBALL:

1A	Cameron	Roger Cain
2A	River	Rick Isaly
3A	Wheeling Central	Penn Kurtz
4A	Cambridge	Dan Linscott
5A	Parkersburg South	Ed Davis

BOYS' BASKETBALL:

1A	Trinity Christian	John Fowkes
2A	River	Mark Romick
3A	Wheeling Central	Mel Stephens
4A	Meadowbrook	Lou Tolzda
5A	University	Joe Schmidle

GIRLS' TENNIS:

1A-4A	Linsly	Dave Reithmiller
5A	Morgantown	Ted Greenlee

BOYS' TENNIS:

1A-4A	Cambridge	Scott Ruby
5A	University	Scott McClellan

SOFTBALL:

1A	Madonna	Chris Conti
2A	Bridgeport	Don Cash, III
3A	Buckeye Trail	Staci Smith
4A	Edison	Spencer Bendle
5A	John Marshall	Ed West

BASEBALL:

1A	Madonna	Tim Provenzano
2A	Linsly	Jay Cartwright
3A	Fort Frye	Sonny Bidwell
4A	Edison	Mike Collopy
5A	Parkersburg South	Mike Burner

GIRLS' TRACK:

1A-2A	Linsly	Katie Wallace
3A	Wheeling Central	Eric Belancic
4A	St. Clairsville	Tony Cirolì
5A	Wheeling Park	Bryan Arbes

BOYS' TRACK:

1A-2A	Steubenville Catholic	Bob Stanko
3A	Magnolia	Travis Emch
4A	St. Clairsville	Tony Cirolì
5A	Morgantown	Steve Blinco

OVAC SCHOLARSHIPS

BETTE PONZO MEMORIAL BASKETBALL SCHOLARSHIP (2010)

Given by Melanie Ponzo Haswell and family in memory of her mother, who worked as scorekeeper for the all-star basketball game. Value: \$250 each

*Alex Wiley, Harrison Central High School
Haley Barr, Clay-Battelle High School*

RAY PONZO MEMORIAL BASKETBALL SCHOLARSHIP (2010)

Given by Melanie Ponzo Haswell and family in memory of her father, who worked as scorekeeper for the all-star basketball game. Value: \$250 each

*James Zecca, The Linsly School
Chase Yoho, Bellaire High School*

PAM AMMIRANTE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP (2018)

Given in memory of Pam Ammirante by her husband, Gene, and children. Value: \$250

Abby Ammons, Clay-Battelle High School

SUSAN KAY STANKO MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP (2013)

Given in memory of Sue Stanko, a long time elementary teacher, by her husband, John, and children. Value: \$250

Devin Hefner, Parkersburg South High School

RICHARD SAFFIELD MEMORIAL BASKETBALL SCHOLARSHIP (2017)

Given in memory of Rich Saffield, basketball coach at Union Local and longtime member of the all-star basketball game committee, by his wife, Carol. Value: \$250

Ty Kildow, Union Local High School

HENRY LAZASZ MEMORIAL BASKETBALL SCHOLARSHIP (1992)

Given in memory of the Buckeye South High School basketball coach who was one of the four founders of the all-star basketball game. Value: \$500 each

*Sarah Powell, Barnesville High School
Sophie Palmer, Valley High School*

RICHARD POTTS MEMORIAL BASKETBALL SCHOLARSHIP (1992)

Given in memory of the River High School basketball coach who was one of the four founders of the all-star basketball game. Value: \$500 each

*A. J. Connor, Steubenville Catholic High School
Owen Gainer, Wheeling Central High School*

BORDAS & BORDAS FOOTBALL SCHOLARSHIP (2012)

Made possible through the generosity of the Bordas & Bordas Law Firm and the Bordas family. Value: \$1,000

Benjamin Steele, Clay-Battelle High School

JEAN FOX HUFF MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP (2016)

Given in memory of Jean Fox Huff by veteran sports journalist Doug Huff, and his two children. Recipient must letter in three sports his senior year. Value: \$500

Mason Ramsay, Bellaire High School

HUNTINGTON BANK "Doing the Right Thing" SCHOLARSHIP (2014)

Created by Huntington Bank, this scholarship rewards students who are involved in the school and community through service projects. Value: \$2,500

Cory Bodkin, St. Clairsville High School

CLARE KAPRAL MEMORIAL TRACK & FIELD SCHOLARSHIP (2006)

Given in memory of Clare Kapral, St. John Central alumnus ('78), by her brothers, John and Robert. Value: \$500

Hannah Pfeffer, Caldwell High School

KINETIC NETWORKING CROSS COUNTRY SCHOLARSHIP (2015)

Made possible through the generosity of Terry Rataiczak, CEO of Kinetic Networking in Caldwell, Ohio. Value: \$500 each

Sophia Ferrelli, Shadyside High School
Kevin Klinkoski, St. Clairsville High School

KINETIC NETWORKING SOCCER SCHOLARSHIP (2010)

Made possible through the generosity of Terry Rataiczak, CEO of Kinetic Networking in Caldwell, Ohio. Value: \$500 each

Emily Rovira, Madonna High School
Justin Hamilton, Union Local High School

PERRY WEST BASEBALL SCHOLARSHIP (1987)

Through the efforts of Perry West, veteran baseball coach, this scholarship is funded by the sale of souvenir programs and the baseball showcase. Value: \$500 each

Josh Zandron, Shadyside High School
Justin Shelton, Brooke High School

OVAC CHEERING SCHOLARSHIP (1993)

These two scholarships are given each year to students from schools who participated in the annual OVAC Cheerleading Championship. Value: \$1,500 and \$500

Caroline Fodor, Weir High School
Reanne Brooks, Harrison Central High School

OVAC COMMISSIONERS' SCHOLARSHIP (2017)

Made possible through the support of ten members of the OVAC Commissioners' Board. Value: \$2,000

Miranda Marsinek, Meadowbrook High School

OVAC PRESIDENTS' SCHOLARSHIP (2014)

The highest scholarship given by the OVAC, this award goes to a student-athlete possessing strong leadership skills in his school and community. Value: \$3,000

Abbey Ammons, Clay-Battelle High School

DOUGLAS S. PILNEY MEMORIAL GOLF SCHOLARSHIP (1994)

Given in memory of Douglas S. Pilney, Buckeye South pro golfer, through a bequest by his parents. Value: \$2,500 each

Jacob Nickell, Wheeling Park High School

SAMUEL A. MUMLEY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP (1994)

Given in memory of Samuel A. Mumley, Executive Secretary of the OVAC for thirty-two years. Value: \$500

Megan Buchheit, Beaver Local High School

AMANDA ROSEPAPA MEMORIAL SOFTBALL SCHOLARSHIP (2011)

Given by the Rosepapa family in memory of Amanda Rosepapa, St. John High School, Class of 2007. Value: \$500

Lauren Garcia, John Marshall High School

SCHOLASTIC SPORTS MARKETING SCHOLARSHIP (2007)

Made possible due to the generosity of James Companion, president of SSM, who handles the Conference's marketing program. Value: \$500

Taylor Franklin, Shenandoah High School

STEPHEN E. HANNIG MEMORIAL SOCCER SCHOLARSHIP (2003)

Given in memory of Steve Hannig, longtime veteran soccer official and WesBanco bank officer, through the support of WesBanco. Value: \$1,000

Madison Jebbia, Wheeling Park High School

WESBANCO SCHOLARSHIP (1988)

One of the Conference's longest running scholarships, made possible through the support of community-minded WesBanco. Value: \$1,000

Christine Hannah-Marie Williams, Valley High School

TODD PEYTON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP (2013)

In memory of Todd Peyton, long-time clothing supplier for the OVAC, this award goes to a student who best displays the spirit and attitudes exemplified by Todd. Value: \$1,000

Kameron Kubancik, Shadyside High School

SHEILA R. DeLUCA MEMORIAL VOLLEYBALL SCHOLARSHIP (2004)

Given in memory of Sheila R. DeLuca, by her husband, Rick DeLuca, volleyball and basketball championship director. Value: \$500

Jalayah Hubbard, Steubenville High School

PEGI BANNAN VOLLEYBALL OFFICIALS' SCHOLARSHIP (2014)

Made possible through the donations from members of the West Virginia-Ohio Volleyball Officials' Board, in honor of the longtime valley official. Value: \$500

Kamden Dulesky, Bridgeport High School

MARTI WOOD STEPHAN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP (2012)

Given in memory of Marti Wood Stephan, a dedicated running enthusiast, through the efforts of her family. Value: \$1,000

Julia Skrabak, St. Clairsville High School

DANIEL M. BURKE MEMORIAL WRESTLING SCHOLARSHIP (1983)

Given in memory of Danny Burke, a wrestler at Wheeling Park High School, through the efforts of family and friends. Value: \$1,000

Tyler Ely, Steubenville High School

GEORGE KOVALICK MEMORIAL WRESTLING SCHOLARSHIP (1980)

Given in memory of Coach K, the father of Ohio Valley wrestling, this scholarship is made possible through the wrestling coaches' association. Value: \$1,000

Caleb Rea, Weir High School

**JAMES "DEAD-EYE" MORRIS MEMORIAL WRESTLING SCHOLARSHIP
(1997)**

Given in memory of Dead-Eye Morris, a Marshall County wrestling enthusiast, focusing on sportsmanship, by his family and sons. Value: \$1,000

Brayden Starkey, Indian Creek High School

LUCAS D. SEDGMER MEMORIAL WRESTLING SCHOLARSHIP (2005)

Given in memory of Luke Sedgmer, a two-time wrestling champion from Cadiz who lost his life in an auto accident, by his family. Value: \$1,000

Clayton Moore, Bellaire High School

2017 - 2018 OVAC EXECUTIVE BOARD

Corey Murphy	President	Marshall County Schools
Dr. Walt Skaggs	Past-President	St. Clairsville City Schools
Jeff Crosier	Vice-President	Barnesville
David Cottrell	WV Board Member	Clay-Battelle High School
Dan Enich	WV Board Member	Hancock County Schools
Dan Leffingwell	OH Board Member	Noble Local Schools
Jerry Narcisi	OH Board Member	Shadyside
Dr. Dianna Vargo	WV Board Member	Wheeling

OVAC COMMISSIONERS' BOARD

Tom Bechtel	Softball	Wheeling
Dave Clutter	Football	Wheeling
Don Zinni	Assistant Football	Yorkville
Rick DeLuca	Standings/Ratings	Rayland
Dr. Dan Doyle	Wrestling	Wheeling
Chelsey Fletcher	Volleyball	Toronto
Dugan Hill	Cross Country/Track	Caldwell
Terry Rataiczak	Technology	Caldwell
Ron White	Basketball	Wheeling
Butch Minkemeyer	Assistant Basketball	Wheeling
Steve Wojcik	Baseball	Wheeling

CONFERENCE REPRESENTATIVES

North	Sean Blumette	Brooke High School
South	Barb Sleek	Fort Frye High School
Central	Kelly Rine	St. Clairsville High School
West	Ray Hibbs	Harrison Central High School

Thomas E. Rataiczak, Executive Director
Bob Koch, Football All-Star Game Director

The OVAC thanks its team of Corporate Partners for their support of our 12,000 student-athletes!



THOMAS



i'm lovin' it'



KINETIC NETWORKING



WEST LIBERTY UNIVERSITY



Smitty's Floors



Grisell
Since 1847
General Home & Crematory

Please consider supporting these businesses that support our kids



We recognize the people who have been so important to the conference in many different roles. The founding fathers were:

FW Bowen, Martins Ferry
J C Greer, Weir High School
Ms Hattala, Yorkville
JV Nelson, Bellaire
CF Walker, Wellsbugh

BG Lockhart, Linsly
C Petty, Linsly
IE Ewing, Wheeling
CS Wiseman, Union

Through out the years the service people have provided to the conference has risen to the level of having events named after them.

The following events have been named for those people.

Sam Mumley, OVAC Executive Secretary for 32 years,
Basketball Allstar Game
Rudy Mumley, All Star Football Game
Ron Mauck, Wrestling Tournament
Cal Giffin, Track Championship
Bill Hinegardner, Dual Meet Wrestling Championship
Bill Brubaker, Swimming Championship
Tom Bechtel, Softball Championship
George Kovalik, Baseball All Star Game
Cal Pokas, Cross Country Championship

During these past 75 years 2739 champions have been crowned. 69 Football All Star Games have been played. Well over half a million dollars in scholarship dollars have been awarded to local athletes. Countless athletes have gone on to great success at the collegiate level and the professional ranks. OVAC we are privileged to have museum here at WesBanco. Please walk around and you will see the history of the conference come alive before your eyes.

The year was 1943. You could buy a gallon of gas for 15 cents. A bottle of Coke for 5 cents. America was engaged in World War II.

The headline of the Wheeling News Register on April 4, 1943 read:
PATTON HURLS INFANTRY AGAINST ROMMEL'S LINE.

Also on that day on the sports page an article about the newly formed OV Athletic Conference was news. The headline read:
OV ATHLETIC CONFERENCE ORGANIZES WITH 15 SCHOOLS APPROVING FIVE YEAR PLAN.

CS Wiseman was selected as the first head of the conference, he represented the old Union High School.

The twenty charter members were:

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Bellaire | 11. West Liberty |
| 2. Martins Ferry | 12. Moundsville |
| 3. St. Johns | 13. Stuebenville |
| 4. Lisly | 14. Stuebenville Central |
| 5. Catholic Central | 15. Weirton |
| 6. Triadelphia | 16. Powhatan |
| 7. Warwood | 17. Yorkville |
| 8. Follansbee | 18. Union |
| 9. Shadyside | 19. Wellsburgh |
| 10. Wheeling High | 20. Tiltonsville |

The first event that the conference held was a track meet at Martins Ferry on May 1st of 1943. Nine schools participated in the event – Martins Ferry, Moundsville, Central Catholic, Warwood, West Liberty, Triadelphia, Linsly, Follansbee, and Wheeling High. Triadelphia was crowned the first OV Athletic Conference Champion. They out-scored Wheeling High 72 ½ to 64 ½ points. The winner of the 100 yard dash was Collins of Wheeling High with a time of 10.5 Seconds.

As we come together this year to recognize the OVAC Champions for the 2017-2018 school year we celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the conference.