



THANK YOU SPONSORS



# The 41st Annual



WesBanco Arena

May 17, 2026

*Serving the youth of the Ohio Valley*



Welcome

As we conclude another successful year of the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference, we hold the final event of the year the 41st Annual Banquet of Champions. Tonight we celebrate the accomplishments of our student-athletes, coaches, and the Conference itself. It is indeed an honor and a privilege to be part of the Conference and its dedicated service to the youth of the Ohio Valley.

This evening we will acknowledge the Overall Champions in each class, as well as the Student-Athlete Achievement Awards. As always we strive to recognize the hard work of student-athletes on and off the playing field. Many student-athletes will be awarded scholarships through 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 hopeful that this evening will be another special memory of a successful year.

Dirk DeCoy  
OVAC Executive Director

**BOYS' TENNIS:**

1A-4A Linsly Rebecca Upton  
5A Morgantown Sabrina Hall

**GIRLS' TENNIS:**

1A-4A Oak Glen Ken Keller  
5A Morgantown Ted Grenlee

**SOFTBALL:**

1A Conotton Valley Jeremy Ady  
2A Caldwell Scott Davis  
3A Martins Ferry Jerry Magistro  
4A Beaver Local Kathryn Neville  
5A University Mindy Parks

**BASEBALL:**

1A Cameron Adam Angel  
2A Toronto Brian Perkins  
3A Central Catholic Todd Cover  
4A Linsly Jay Cartwright  
5A Morgantown Pat Sherald

**BOYS' TRACK:**

1A-2A Steubenville Catholic Bob Stanko  
3A Barnesville Dylan Rogers  
4A St. Clairsville Darin Wilson  
5A Morgantown Steven Blinco

**GIRLS' TRACK:**

1A-2A Shadyside Ashley Visnic  
3A Shenandoah Anthony Starr  
4A Edison Jason Fogle  
5A Wheeling Park Zach Phillips

**OVAC CHAMPIONS 2025 - 2026**

**2025 - 2026 OVAC HIGHLIGHTS**

**BOYS' GOLF:**

1A-2A	Caldwell	Charlie Laswell
3A	Central Catholic	Jim Mortakis
4A	St. Clairsville	Ryan Clifford
5A	Wheeling Park	Don Headley

**GIRLS' GOLF:**

1A-5A	Fort Frye	Ryan Layton
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**BOYS' SOCCER:**

1A-3A	Central Catholic	Brian Komorowski
4A	St. Clairsville	Jeff Robert
5A	Wheeling Park	Mario Julian

**GIRLS' SOCCER:**

1A-3A	Central Catholic	Bill Konkle
4A	Beaver Loyal	Liz Connor
5A	Wheeling Park	Tom Smith

**BOYS' CROSS COUNTRY:**

1A-2A	Trinity Christian	John Barnett
3A	Bellaire	Chris Arno
4A	St. Clairsville	Darin Wilson
5A	University	Ed Frohnapfel

**GIRLS' CROSS COUNTRY:**

1A-2A	Shadyside	Mike Coyne
3A	Bellaire	Chris Arno
4A	Edison	Dawn Cable
5A	Morgantown	Mike Ryan

CONTINUED \$1 STUDENT TICKETS FOR ALL OVAC CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS

FIRST ANNUAL BASKETBALL SHOWCASE CONDUCTED

INAUGURAL GIRLS WRESTLING - 100+ GIRLS COMPETES IN OVAC

RON MAUCK WRESTLING TOURNAMENT

HELMET STICKERS FOR FOOTBALL, SOFTBALL, AND BASEBALL TEAMS

PARKERSBURG CATHOLIC JOINS THE OVAC.

WRESTLED THE CENTRAL DISTRICT WRESTLING COACHES ASSOCIATION ALL-STAR TEAM IN COLUMBUS, OHIO

WRESTLED THE PENNSYLVANIA ALL-STAR MAC WRESTLERS

SEVENTY-TWO SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED WORTH NEARLY \$60,000

TWENTY-NINE SCHOOLS COMPETING IN CHEER CHAMPIONSHIPS

SIX WV COACHES NOMINATED FOR COACH OF THE YEAR WON STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

## OVAC BY THE NUMBERS

1,201,214 POPULATION

57,550 DOLLARS OF SCHOLARSHIP MONEY AWARDED THIS YEAR

17,866 SOPHOMORES, JUNIORS, AND SENIORS

5,615 SQUARE MILE FOOTPRINT

1,409 PARTICIPANTS IN VARSITY TRACK & FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS

878 PARTICIPANTS IN JR HI TRACK & FIELD CHAMPIONSHIP

776 HEAD COACHES

485 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

368 PARTICIPANTS IN WRESTLING TOURNAMENT

128 MEMBER ALL-STAR BAND

82 YEARS YOUNG

80 CHAMPIONSHIP TROPHIES AWARDED

79 YEARS OF ALL-STAR FOOTBALL GAMES

72 SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

58 MEMBER SCHOOLS

48 HIGH SCHOOLS PARTICIPATING IN TRACK & FIELD CHAMPIONSHIP

41 JR HI SCHOOLS PARTICIPATING IN TRACK & FIELD CHAMPIONSHIP

21 COUNTIES

14 SPORTS

11 ALL-STAR GAMES

13 CITIES HOSTING OVAC CHAMPIONSHIPS

5 CLASSES: 1A, 2A, 3A, 4A, 5A

3 JUNIOR HIGH CHAMPIONSHIPS

### TEALL PROPERTIES GROUP SCHOLARSHIP

Made possible due to the generosity of Teall Properties Group who handles the Conference's marketing program. Value: \$500

PRESENTED TO: Zachary Babcock - Monroe Central High School

### CHICK-FIL-A SCHOLARSHIP

Given by Chick-Fil-A owners, Joseph Evans and Joanna Gibson, supporters of OVAC student-athletes. Value: \$2,500 each

PRESENTED TO: Kaylee White - John Marshall High School AND Alexander Sheanshang - Caldwell High School

### OVAC STEM TRIVIA CHALLENGE SCHOLARSHIP

Given by Ohio Natural Energy Institute (One-I), supporter of OVAC student-athletes. Value: \$1,500

PRESENTED TO: Jacob Theacker - Martins Ferry High School

### WESBANCO BANK SCHOLARSHIP

Made possible through the support of community-minded WesBanco. Value: \$1,000

PRESENTED TO: Laken Vinskovich - Union Local High School

### MIKE ROSE MEMORIAL ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIP

Given in memory of Coach Mike Rose by his St. John High School Class of 1982 classmates. Recipients must play in three sports all four years. Value: \$500 each

PRESENTED TO: Erin Maxwell - Wheeling Central Catholic HS AND Alex Ney - Bellaire High School

### CLARE KAPRAL MEMORIAL TRACK & FIELD SCHOLARSHIP

Given in memory of Clare Kapral, St. John Central alumnus ('78), by her brothers, John and Robert. Value: \$1,000

PRESENTED TO: Alyson Vingia - Bellaire High School

### BORDAS & BORDAS FOOTBALL SCHOLARSHIP

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

PRESENTED TO: Kayne Dunkle - Harrison Central High School

### JEAN FOX HUFF MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

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

PRESENTED TO: Rylee Birkhimer - Madonna High School

### JIM KOVALO MEMORIAL OVAC SHOT PUT SCHOLARSHIP

Given in memory of Jim Hammond, by his daughter, Jamie Hammond. Value: \$250

PRESENTED TO: Bella Chirpas - Martins Ferry High School AND Liam Waldeck - Wheeling Park High School

### OVAC CROSS-COUNTRY SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to one male and one female athlete, made possible through the generosity of the OVAC Executive Board. Value: \$500 each

PRESENTED TO: Hannah Ruberto - Beaver Local High School AND Landon Grimes - Toronto High School

**RICHARD POTTS MEMORIAL BASKETBALL SCHOLARSHIP**

Given in memory of the River High School basketball coach who was one of the four founders of the all-star basketball game. Value: \$250 each  
PRESENTED TO: WV, Gavin Geisse - Oak Glen High School, AND  
OH, Cole Bowers - Steubenville High School

**PEGI BANNAN VOLLEYBALL OFFICIALS' SCHOLARSHIP**

Made possible through the donations from members of the West Virginia-Ohio Volleyball Officials' Board, in honor of the longtime valley official. Value: \$500  
PRESENTED TO: Brayley Lash - Oak Glen High School

**TODD PEYTON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

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  
PRESENTED TO: Ryleigh Wilson - Magnolia High School

**FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS WITH DJ DANER SCHOLARSHIPS  
FOOTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR WINNERS. Value: \$500 each.  
PRESENTED TO THE WV FOOTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR:**

Cortez Paczewski - Cameron High School AND  
**THE OHIO FOOTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR:**  
Hudson Mathews - Buckeye Local High School

**CHEERLEADER WINNERS Value: \$250 each.**

FROM WV: Emily LeFlam - Wheeling Park High School, AND  
OH: Taylor Kildow - Union Local High School

**BAND MEMBER WINNERS Value: \$250 each.**

FROM WV: Ryan Haught - Brooke High School, AND  
OH: Wyatt Wehr - Union Local High School

**#1 FAN WINNER Value: \$150:**

PRESENTED TO: Ryleigh Wilson - Magnolia High School

**#1 MASCOT WINNER Value: \$150 each:**

PRESENTED TO: Anna Kain - St. Clairsville High School

**DANIEL M. BURKE MEMORIAL WRESTLING SCHOLARSHIP**

Given in memory of Danny Burke, a wrestler at Wheeling Park High School, through the efforts of family and friends. Value: \$1,500  
PRESENTED TO: Jahmiah-el Bey - Steubenville High School  
AND Emerson Murphy - University High School

**GEORGE KOVALICK MEMORIAL WRESTLING SCHOLARSHIP**

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  
PRESENTED TO: Ryder Hastings - University High School

**LUCAS D. SEDGEMER MEMORIAL WRESTLING SCHOLARSHIP**

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  
PRESENTED TO: Cooper Smith - Steubenville High School

**DAVE BIERKORTTE MEMORIAL WRESTLING SCHOLARSHIP**

Given in memory of Dave Bierkorte through the efforts of the Central Catholic Boosters. Value: \$500  
PRESENTED TO: Bobby Buchheit - Beaver Local High School

**BILL MARLING MEMORIAL WRESTLING SCHOLARSHIP**

Given in memory of Danny Burke, a wrestler at Wheeling Park High School, through the efforts of family and friends. Value: \$500  
PRESENTED TO: Luke McMillion - Indian Creek High School

**RON MAUCK MEMORIAL WRESTLING SCHOLARSHIP**

Given in memory of Ron Mauck, namesake of the OVAC Wrestling Tournament.  
Value: \$2,000

PRESENTED TO: Grace Tamburin - Wheeling Park High School AND  
Bobby Buchheit - Beaver Local High School

**R. C. ANDERSON MEMORIAL WRESTLING SCHOLARSHIP**

Given in memory of R.C. Anderson who was a Cameron wrestler and outstanding community leader. Value: \$1,000  
PRESENTED TO: Kaden Nieman - University High School

**STEPHEN E. HANNIG MEMORIAL SOCCER SCHOLARSHIP**

Given in memory of Steve Hannig, longtime veteran soccer official and WestBanco bank officer, through the support of WestBanco. Value: \$1,000  
PRESENTED TO: Brody Roe - Union Local High School

**PERRY WEST BASEBALL SCHOLARSHIP**

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  
PRESENTED TO: Scott Balsei - Bellaire High School AND  
Kason Angel - Cameron High School

**OVAC CHERING SCHOLARSHIP**

These two scholarships are given each year to students from schools who participated in the annual OVAC Cheerleading Championship. Value: \$1,500 and \$500  
PRESENTED TO: Tegan Corbert - Bellaire High School AND  
Audrey Thomas - Cameron High School

**AMANDA ROSEPAPA MEMORIAL SOFTBALL SCHOLARSHIP**

Given by the Rosepapa family in memory of Amanda Rosepapa, St. John High School,  
Class of 2007. Value: \$1,000

PRESENTED TO: Sophia Jane Marshall - Caldwell High School

**OVAC SWIMMING SCHOLARSHIP (2023)**

Awarded to one male and one female athlete, made possible through the generosity of the  
OVAC Executive Board. Value: \$500 each

PRESENTED TO: Jacob Perry - Wheeling Central Catholic HS  
AND Sophia Funke - The Linsly School

**BOB BATTISTA MEMORIAL BASKETBALL SCHOLARSHIP**

Given by the Battista family in memory of Bob Battista, long time coach and educator at Sher-  
rard Middle School and OVAC All-Star Basketball Game staff member. Value: \$250  
PRESENTED TO: Caedyn Silva - Monroe Central High School

**BETTE ANN PONZO MEMORIAL BASKETBALL SCHOLARSHIP**

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

PRESENTED TO: WV-Macey Bertram - Cameron High School AND  
OH-Gabby Taylor - Indian Creek High School

**RAY PONZO MEMORIAL BASKETBALL SCHOLARSHIP**

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

PRESENTED TO: WV-Austin Porta - Trinity Christian School AND  
OH- Garrett Carpenter - Cambridge High School

**PAM AMMIRANTE MEMORIAL BASKETBALL SCHOLARSHIP**

Given in memory of Pam Ammirante by her husband, Gene, and children. Value: \$250  
PRESENTED TO: Anna Bowersock - Frontier High School

**SUSAN KAY STANKO MEMORIAL BASKETBALL SCHOLARSHIP**

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

PRESENTED TO: Maddie Campbell - University High School

**RICHARD SAFFIELD MEMORIAL BASKETBALL SCHOLARSHIP**

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

PRESENTED TO: Sophia Henderson - Edison High School

**HENRY LAZASZ MEMORIAL BASKETBALL SCHOLARSHIP**

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: \$250 each

PRESENTED TO: WV-Haylee Stewart - Oak Glen High School, AND  
OH- Mary Rohde - Steubenville Catholic Central High School

**SAMUEL A. MUMLEY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

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

PRESENTED TO: Dawson Geese - Cambridge High School

**DOUGLAS S. PILNEY MEMORIAL GOLF SCHOLARSHIP**

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

PRESENTED TO: Olivia Baker - St. Clairsville High School

**DONALD G. GILL MEMORIAL GOLF SCHOLARSHIP**

Given in memory of Donald G. Gill: Honoring his love for high school athletics, made possible  
by the Gill Family.

Value: \$500 each

PRESENTED TO: Kamden Kinyo - Buckeye Local High School AND  
Nolan Zambori - Martins Ferry High School

**OVAC TENNIS SCHOLARSHIP (2023)**

Awarded to one male and one female athlete, made possible through the generosity of the  
OVAC Executive Board. Value: \$500 each

PRESENTED TO: Keyuri Morgan - Wheeling Central Catholic High School AND  
Aaron Chao - Wheeling Park High School

**OVAC PRESIDENTS' SCHOLARSHIP**

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

PRESENTED TO: Mary Bridget Rohde - Steubenville Central Catholic High School

**OVAC SOCCER SCHOLARSHIP (2023)**

Awarded to one male and one female athlete, made possible through the generosity of the  
OVAC Executive Board. Value: \$500 each

PRESENTED TO: Sophia Smith - Beaver Local High School AND  
Rylan Mathews - Cambridge High School

**OHIO UNIVERSITY EASTERN ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIP**

Given to an incoming freshman who played volleyball, basketball, or eSports in high school.  
Value: \$1,000

PRESENTED TO: Ali Clair Weatherson - Shadyside High School

**OVAC BOWLING SCHOLARSHIP (2023)**

Awarded to one male and one female athlete, made possible through the generosity of the  
OVAC Executive Board. Value: \$500 each

PRESENTED TO: Kaitlen Hughes - St. Clairsville High School AND  
Logan Porter - Union Local High School

**ISSAC DeGENOVA SCHOLARSHIP**

Given in memory of family friend, Issac DeGenova. Value: \$250

PRESENTED TO: Liberty Faith Chambers - Bridgeport High School

**OVAC COMMISSIONERS' SCHOLARSHIP**

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

PRESENTED TO: Ginger Gross - Clay-Battelle High School