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CONFERENCE
SINCE 1948

OHIO VALLEY CONFERENCE
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MEMBERSHIP

Austin Peay State University - Clarksville, Tenn.
Member since 1962

Belmont University - Nashville, Tenn.
Member since 2012

Eastern Illinois University - Charleston, Ill.
Member since 1996

Eastern Kentucky University - Richmond, Ky.
Member since 1948

Jacksonville State University - Jacksonville, Ala.
Member since 2003

Morehead State University - Morehead, Ky.
Member since 1948

Murray State University - Murray, Ky.
Member since 1948

Southeast Missouri State University - Cape Girardeau, Mo.
Member since 1991

Southern Illinois University Edwardsville - Edwardsville, Ill.
Member since 2008

Tennessee State University - Nashville, Tenn.
Member since 1986

Tennessee Technological University - Cookeville, Tenn.
Member since 1949

University of Tennessee at Martin - Martin, Tenn.
Member since 1992

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CREDITS

This 2013-14 Ohio Valley Conference Basketball Media Guide was written, designed and edited by Kyle Schwartz, Assistant Commissioner for Media Relations, and Heather Brown, Director of Media Relations. Assistance provided by and a special thanks to the sports information directors at the 12 OVC member institutions for providing content and assistance.

The guide is available at OVCSports.com as a PDF download. Upon request it is also available on CD. The CD also contains the PDF media guides of all 12 OVC schools as well as a Logo/Headshot Library of the Conference office and member institutions. To request a copy, contact Kyle Schwartz or Heather Brown in the OVC office.

SCHOOL WEBSITES

Ohio Valley Conference.....	www.OVCSports.com
Austin Peay	www.LetsGoPeay.com
Belmont	www.BelmontBruins.com
Eastern Illinois	www.EIUpanthers.com
Eastern Kentucky	www.EKUSports.com
Jacksonville State.....	www.JSUGamecockSports.com
Murray State	www.GoRacers.com
Southeast Missouri	www.GoSoutheast.com
SIUE	www.siucoyugars.com
Tennessee State.....	www.TSUTigers.com
Tennessee Tech.....	www.TTUSports.com
UT Martin	www.UTMSports.com

OVC GAMES ON THE RADIO/INTERNET

Austin Peay

On the Radio..WVRY105.1, WKFN (540AM), 100.7 FM	
On the Internet.....	www.LetsGoPeay.com
Talent	Greg Walker (m), David Loos (m/w), Van Stokes (w)

Belmont

On the Radio	104.5 The Zone (m)
On the Internet.....	www.BelmontBruins.com
Talent	Kevin Ingram

Eastern Illinois

On the Radio	Hit Mix 88.9 (WEIU)
On the Internet.....	www.weiuhitmix.net
Talent ...Mike Bradd, Jack Ashmore (m), Rich Moser (w)	

Eastern Kentucky

On the Radio	WCYO-FM 100.7 (m)
	WEKY-AM 1340 (w)
On the Internet.....	www.wcyofm.com (m)
	www.wekyam.com (w)
Talent	Greg Stotemyer (m), Sean Hamilton (w)

Jacksonville State

On the Radio	WLJS-FM 91.9
On the Internet.....	www.jsu.edu/92j
Talent	Mike Parris

Morehead State

On the Radio	WIVY-FM (96.3)
On the Internet.....	www.MSUEagles.com
Talent	Chuck Mraz (m), Jason Blanton (w)

Murray State

On the Radio	WFGE-FM 103.7 (m)
	WNBS 1340 (w)
On the Internet.....	www.GoRacers.com
TalentNeal Bradley (m), Jonathan Waszkowski (w)	

Southeast Missouri

On the Radio	K-103 FM 102.9
On the Internet.....	www.k103fm.com
Talent	Erik Sean, Jess Bolen

SIUE

On the Radio	WSIE FM 88.7
On the Internet.....	www.SIU CougarNetwork.com
Talent	Joe Pott (m), Adam Young (w)

Tennessee State

On the Radio	102.1 FM "The Light"
On the Internet.....	http://thelightnashville.com
Talent	Albert Dawson, Mark Pittman

Tennessee Tech

On the Radio	WHUB AM 1400
On the Internet.....	www.TTUSports.com
Talent	Roger Ealey

UT Martin

On the Radio	WCMT-FM 101.3
On the Internet.....	www.UTMSports.com
Talent	Tom Britt, Chris Brinkley

Note: All above radio listings are Flagship stations only and does not include radio network affiliates.

OVC PRESS BOX PHONE NUMBERS

Austin Peay	(931) 221-7155/7156
Belmont	(615) 460-8554
Eastern Illinois	(217) 581-5135
Eastern Kentucky	(859) 622-5908
Jacksonville State.....	(256) 782-5583
Morehead State.....	(606) 783-2500
Murray State.....	(270) 809-5551
Southeast Missouri.....	(573) 651-5014
SIUE	(618) 650-2188
Tennessee State.....	(615) 963-7616
Tennessee Tech.....	(931) 372-6077/6078
UT Martin	(731) 881-7694

MEDIA INFORMATION

OVC MEDIA RELATIONS

For more information on the OVC during the year, please contact the OVC Media Relations Department. Kyle Schwartz, Assistant Commissioner for Media Relations, serves as the men's basketball contact and can be reached at (615) 690-6685 or kschwartz@ovc.org. Heather Brown, Director of Media Relations, serves as the women's basketball contact and can be reached at (615) 690-6687 or hbrown@ovc.org.

OVCSports.com

The official Website of the Ohio Valley Conference is OVCSports.com. The website is a direct partnership with SIDEARM Sports. The Website contains all the latest news on the conference including releases, statistics and standings.

OVC COACHES TELECONFERENCES

During the regular season a monthly teleconference featuring the league's basketball coaches will be held on select Tuesday's (men) and Wednesday's (women). Men's call dates are: Jan. 14 and Feb. 11 while women's call dates are Jan. 9 and Feb. 5.

All eight men's and women's coaches that make the OVC Tournament field will have a joint press conference on Monday, March 3 at 9 a.m. Central time; a schedule of the teleconference will be determined by seeding.

A schedule of what times coaches will appear is below. Following each teleconference, the audio will be cut-up and posted online at OVCSports.com for free access. If media members would like .mp3 files of any of the coaches comments, please contact the OVC office. For information on how to access the call, please contact Kyle Schwartz in the OVC Office.

Men's Coaches Schedule

9:55 - Call Opens/Announcements
10:00 - James Green, Jacksonville State
10:05 - Jay Spoonhour, Eastern Illinois
10:10 - Rick Byrd, Belmont
10:15 - Steve Prohm, Murray State
10:20 - Dave Loos, Austin Peay
10:25 - Steve Payne, Tennessee Tech
10:30 - Jeff Neubauer, Eastern Kentucky
10:35 - Lennox Forrester, SIUE
10:40 - Jason James, UT Martin
10:45 - Travis Williams, Tennessee State
10:50 - Sean Woods, Morehead State
10:55 - Dickey Nutt, Southeast Missouri

Women's Coaches Schedule

9:55 - Call Opens/Announcements
10:00 - Carrie Daniels, Austin Peay
10:05 - Kevin McMillan, UT Martin
10:10 - Jim Davis, Tennessee Tech
10:15 - Debbie Black, Eastern Illinois
10:20 - Larry Joe Inman, Tennessee State
10:25 - Rob Cross, Murray State
10:30 - Ty Margenthaler, Southeast Missouri
10:35 - Chrissy Roberts, Eastern Kentucky
10:40 - Tom Hodges, Morehead State
10:45 - Paula Buscher, SIUE
10:50 - Cameron Neubauer, Belmont
10:55 - Rick Pietri, Jacksonville State

ONLINE PRESS BOX

The OVC Basketball Online Press Box is a one-stop shop for gathering information about the OVC and its member schools. Media can access it at www.OVCSports.com/basketballpressbox or via links on the Men's or Women's Basketball pages at OVCSports.com. There you will find important related files and links for every OVC school in one place.

OVC DIGITAL NETWORK

In August 2012 the OVC rebranded its web-streaming platform as the OVC Digital Network (www.OVCDigitalNetwork.com). The OVCDN is the exclusive home for live web streamed athletic contests involving OVC schools. Overall this marks the eighth year the OVC has streamed live events, and the second the events have been offered free of charge and in an HD format. Users will also find it easier to log onto the site and access the streams, as they can do so with no registration and can access the events from any computer, tablet or smart-phone without any special downloads or apps.

OVC AND SOCIAL MEDIA

Media and fans can get the latest updates on Ohio Valley Conference happenings by using the social media outlets including Twitter and Facebook. Followers and fans of the OVC on each application will get breaking news first and have the chance to access special content and receive special deals. The OVC can be found on Twitter at http://www.twitter.com/ovcsports and on Facebook at http://www.facebook.com/ovcsports. The OVC also has a YouTube channel (http://www.YouTube.com/ohiovalleyconference) for the latest videos and a blog located at http://www.ovcinsider.blogspot.com.

OVC TOURNAMENT CREDENTIALS

The 2014 OVC Tournament will be held March 5-8 at Municipal Auditorium in Nashville, Tenn. The deadline to request credentials for the event is **MONDAY, MARCH 3 AT 1 P.M. CT**. For the fifth year in a row, ALL credentialling will be conducted online through Sport Systems. Complete information on the process will be available in January at OVCSports.com. NO credentials will be mailed; instead they can be picked up in-person at the Municipal Auditorium Media Entrance, located at the back entrance of the arena, off of 5th Avenue (near Gay Street).

OVC TOURNAMENT/PARKING INFO

Parking in downtown Nashville and at Municipal Auditorium is at a premium. There is very little on-site parking for the OVC Tournament. Please visit the following Web site (http://www.parkit-downtown.com) to located parking garages and surface lots in downtown Nashville. Municipal Auditorium is located at 417 4th Avenue North, with side streets being Gay (North), Charlotte (South), 5th (West) and James Robertson/4th Avenue (East). Members of the media are encouraged to make their own hotel accommodations; there is no official media hotel for the OVC Tournament.

OHIO VALLEY CONFERENCE STYLE GUIDE

Official Institution Name "Nickname"	Preferred Athletics Reference	Unacceptable Usages	PMS Colors
Austin Peay State University "Governors" or "Govs" (men's teams) "Lady Govs" (women's teams)	Austin Peay, APSU	Austin Peay State, AP Lady Governors	200 Red
Belmont University "Bruins"	Belmont	Lady Bruins	Red 186, Blue 281
Eastern Illinois University "Panthers"	Eastern Illinois, EIU	Lady Panthers	2945 Blue, 422 Gray White
Eastern Kentucky University "Colonels", "Lady Colonels" (W-Basketball only)	Eastern Kentucky, EKU	---	209 Maroon, 429 Gray
Jacksonville State University "Gamecocks"	Jacksonville State, JSU Jax State	Jacksonville, Jack State Lady Gamecocks	186 Red, 122 Gold
Morehead State University "Eagles"	Morehead State, MSU	Morehead	286 Blue, 116 Yellow
Murray State University "Racers", "Thoroughbreds" (baseball only)	Murray State, MSU	Murray, Lady Racers	123 Gold, 289 Blue
Southeast Missouri State University "Redhawks"	Southeast Missouri State Southeast Missouri, Southeast	---	186 Red, 05 Cool Grey Black
Southern Illinois University Edwardsville "Cougars"	SIUE (preferred) SIU Edwardsville	Southern Illinois-Edwardsville SIU-E	485 Red, 462 Dark Brown 7505 Brown, 465 Gold 7504 Light Brown
Tennessee State University "Tigers", "Lady Tigers" (WBB-only), "Tigerbelles" (W-Track only)	Tennessee State, TSU	---	Reflex Blue
Tennessee Technological University "Golden Eagles"	Tennessee Tech, TTU, Tech	Tenn. Tech, TT	266 Purple, 109 Gold
The University of Tennessee at Martin "Skyhawks"	UT Martin, UTM	Tennessee-Martin UT-Martin, Martin	289 Blue, 151 Orange
Ohio Valley Conference	Ohio Valley, OVC	Valley	194 Maroon, 874 Gold Black



Above are the primary logos for the Ohio Valley Conference member institutions. All logos are trademarks of their respective universities.

This reference is intended only for media-related, non-commercial use. For more information or to request access to logos, contact Kyle Schwartz, Assistant Commissioner for Media Relations, at the Ohio Valley Conference at (615) 690-6685 or kschwartz@ovc.org.





Now in its 66th year, the Ohio Valley Conference continues to build on the success that has made it the nation's eighth-oldest NCAA Division I conference. In May 2011 the Conference expanded for the second time in four years, adding Belmont University which began competition in the 2012-13 academic year. The addition of Belmont gave the OVC 12 members, the most the league has had at one time in its illustrious history. The move added a second team in the city of Nashville and was the first addition to the league since Southern Illinois University Edwardsville joined in 2008. Subsequently, the league has shown its stability over the past decade, seeing only one member institution depart over the past 13 years.

The 2009-10 school year saw a change in leadership as Beth DeBauche was named the seventh full-time Commissioner in league history on July 28, 2009. She is currently one of just six females to be the head of a Division I conference, and one of just nine to lead a Division I conference all-time. The last three commissioners of the OVC have moved onto jobs as the commissioner of the Big Ten, Big 12 and the Mid-American Conferences.

The OVC's proud history dates back to 1948, but seeds for the new league were actually planted in 1941. It was then that Roy Stewart, the athletics director at Murray State, Charles "Turkey" Hughes, the athletics director at Eastern Kentucky, and Kelly Thompson, the public relations director at Western Kentucky, first broached the idea of forming a new conference. Discussions were put on hold by World War II, but reemerged Feb. 27-28, 1948 at the Kentucky Hotel in Louisville as the three original institutions combined with Morehead State, Louisville and Evansville to form the OVC.

In the 1950s, the OVC became a pioneer on a much more significant scale socially. During times of racial segregation, league member Morehead State became one of the first non-traditionally black mid-southern institutions to accept a black student. In 1958 Marshall Banks earned athletically-related aid at Morehead, which signed a second black athlete, Howard Murphy, a year later. In 1961 Murphy earned all-conference recognition as a half-back in football. With racial barriers broken, the rest of the institutions in the league began to provide educational and athletic opportunities to African-Americans.

After Title IX legislation passed in 1972, women's athletics began a rebirth on the national scene as the NCAA began sponsoring and marketing women's sports. Recognizing the need to provide increased opportunities for female athletes, the OVC began formulating plans for women's athletics in 1975 and established women's championships in the sports of basketball, tennis and track in 1977, with cross country and volleyball added over the next four years. Those sports were initially governed by the Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (IAIW), but the overall strength of women's programs in the league was demonstrated by the automatic bids the OVC instantly received when the NCAA became the governing body in 1982. The conference added women's golf and softball in 1994 and women's soccer in 1998.

In 1955, the OVC became only the second six-member league nationally to earn an automatic bid to the prestigious NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament, which, at that time, was limited to only 24 participants. The Conference quickly proved worthy of that bid, as Morehead State defeated Marshall (107-92) and Wayne State (95-84) in the 1956 tournament. Fifteen years later, former OVC member Western Kentucky became the first and only Conference team to reach the Final Four. The Hilltoppers defeated Jacksonville, Kentucky and Ohio State before losing to Villanova in double overtime in the national semifinals. WKU went on to finish in third place after beating Kansas 77-75 in the consolation game.

Since that time, the OVC has recorded some of the biggest upsets in the history of the NCAA Tournament. Perhaps the most famous moment came in 1987, when Austin Peay came from fourth place in the regular season to win the OVC Tournament and earn the league's automatic bid. The Governors drew powerful Illinois, and were such big underdogs, that ESPN broadcaster Dick Vitale promised to stand on his head if APSU won the game. After a 68-67 victory over the Illini, and a narrow 90-87 overtime loss to eventual Final Four participant Providence in the second round, Vitale made good on his promise in a visit to Clarksville two months later.

Murray State added to the OVC's string of upsets in 1988 when it knocked off 14th-ranked North Carolina State, 78-75. The Racers' M&M Boys - Jeff Martin and Don Mann - combined for 39 points in the win. MSU nearly went on to the Sweet 16 that year, losing to eventual national champion Kansas, 61-58. A bank shot by Mann that would've given the Racers a one-point lead rolled off the rim with three seconds left. In 1990 as a No. 16 seed, Murray State took No. 1 seed Michigan State into overtime before falling 75-71; that game still marks the closest a No. 16 seed has come to knocking off a No. 1 in men's tournament action. More recently, Murray State has dominated the OVC Tournament, reaching the championship game every year in the 1990's. The Racers' 15 OVC Tournament Championships are the most among all OVC schools.

After former member Middle Tennessee State won a first round game in 1989, the league had a drought as no other OVC team won a NCAA Tournament game for the next 19 years. But Morehead State, coming off a thrilling double overtime OVC Tournament victory over Austin Peay, topped Alabama State 58-43 in the Opening Round game at University of Dayton Arena in Dayton, Ohio. The game was played in front of an Opening Round record crowd of 11,346; that crowd included many MSU fans who made the three-hour drive from Morehead for the game.

In 2009-10, Murray State made OVC history by winning a record 31 games (31-5) on its way to the league's regular season and tournament championships. In the first round of the NCAA Tournament, the No. 13 seed Racers topped Vanderbilt in thrilling fashion when senior Danero Thomas hit a jumper as time expired to lift MSU to a 66-65 victory. It marked the first OVC team to advance to the second round of the NCAA Tournament since 1989, and snapped a skid of 71-straight losses to Southeastern Conference foes (dating back to 2000-01). In the second round the Racers pushed eventual national runner-up Butler to the brink before losing 54-52.

In 2010-11 Morehead State would make it three NCAA Tournament wins in as many years for the league and got a bit of revenge for the 2009 tournament loss to Louisville in the process. After finishing second in the regular season and winning the OVC Tournament

Championship, the No. 13 seeded Eagles were shipped to Denver to play the in-state foe Cardinals. MSU jumped out to a 15-2 advantage but were down four points (61-57) with just over a minute to play in regulation. After two free throws from two-time OVC Player of the Year Kenneth Faried, the Eagles held for one final shot attempt and senior Demonte Harper pulled up off a cross-over dribble to nail a 3-pointer with 4.3 seconds left that gave Morehead State a 62-61 lead. UofL had one last attempt but Faried blocked the Cardinals last shot, giving MSU the win, its first over Louisville since the 1956-57 season.

In 2011-12 Murray State put together one of the greatest seasons in OVC history, beginning the year 23-0 (an all-time OVC best) and being ranked as high as No. 7 in the coaches poll on Feb. 6. The squad was the first OVC team to be nationally-ranked since Murray State was ranked in 1997-98; in addition the top 10 ranking was the first for an OVC team since the 1970-71 campaign (WKU). The Racers would top nationally-ranked Memphis and Saint Mary's during the season and win the league's regular season and tournament championships. MSU earned a No. 6 seed in NCAA Tournament, the highest-ever seed for an OVC team since the NCAA began seeding the field in 1979. The Racers would top Colorado State 58-41 in the second round before falling to Marquette in the third round. Murray State would win 31 games overall, tying the OVC all-time record the Racers set in 2009-10.

After the Murray State win in 2011-12, the league had won NCAA Tournament games in four-straight seasons, something that had never happened in league history (three-game winning streaks from 1960-62 and 1987-89 had been the previous best streaks). Over that time period (2009-12) the OVC was one of just nine conferences nationally to win a NCAA Tournament game in each season and one of only three non-BCS leagues (joining the Atlantic 10 and WCC) to do so.

During the 2010-11 year Faried, the nation's leading rebounder during the season, became the NCAA's Modern Era (since 1973) career rebounding leader, totaling 1,673 rebounds which passed Tim Duncan for the record (he is 11th all-time in NCAA history). Faried also finished his career with 86 double-doubles, second all-time to only Duncan. He is one of only six players in NCAA history to finish with 2,000-plus career points (2,009) and 1,600-plus career rebounds. Faried was drafted 22nd overall by the Denver Nuggets in the 2011 NBA Draft, becoming the first OVC player selected in the first round since Tennessee State's Carlos Rogers 1994.

Through its 65 years, 13 teams have won or shared the league's regular season men's basketball title. Murray State heads the list with a Conference-record 23 outright or shared basketball crowns. Other past champions include former member Western Kentucky (19), Morehead State (9), Austin Peay (8), Eastern Kentucky (6), Tennessee Tech (5), former member Middle Tennessee (5), Tennessee State (2), former member East Tennessee State (2), Belmont (1 - winning the 2012-13 title in its first year in the league), Southeast Missouri State (1), UT Martin (1) and former member Akron (1).

Among the coaching greats in men's basketball have been Western Kentucky's E.A. Diddle, who retired with 759 victories and 10 OVC titles; John Oldham, who was a member of the very first All-OVC squad and went on to win seven OVC crowns during his coaching tenure at Tennessee Tech and Western Kentucky; Paul McBrayer, who guided Eastern Kentucky to 219 wins and three OVC crowns; and Cal Luther, who is the only person in Conference history to win men's basketball Coach of the Year honors at two league schools - Murray State and UT Martin. Current Austin Peay head coach Dave Loos became the winningest coach in OVC history in 2009-10, netting his 319th victory and passing Luther on the all-time list. Loos enters the 2013-14 season with 371 victories.

There have been an equal number of great players including Western Kentucky's Clem Haskins, who is the only three-time OVC Player of the Year. Several players have won OVC Player of the Year honors twice: Western Kentucky's Jim McDaniels (1969-70 and 1970-71), Murray State's Les Taylor (1971-72, 1972-73), Jeff Martin (1987-88, 1988-89), Popeye Jones (1989-90, 1990-91) and Marcus Brown (1994-95, 1995-96), Austin Peay's Otis Howard (1976-77, 1977-78), Middle Tennessee's Jerry Beck (1980-81, 1981-82), Akron's Joe Jakubick (1982-83, 1983-84), Tennessee State's Carlos Rogers (1992-93, 1993-94), UT Martin's Lester Hudson (2007-08, 2008-09), Morehead State's Kenneth Faried (2009-10, 2010-11) and Murray State's Isaiah Canaan (2011-12, 2012-13).

The OVC also has the honor of being the only conference to boast the nation's leaders in scoring, rebounding and assists all in one season. That feat was accomplished in 1991-92 by Morehead State's Brett Roberts (28.1 ppg), Murray State's Popeye Jones (14.4 rpg) and Tennessee Tech's Van Usher (8.8 apg).

In 2007-08, UT Martin guard Lester Hudson became the first men's Division I player to record a quadruple-double in a game, when he registered 25 points, 12 rebounds, 10 assists and 10 steals in a victory over Central Baptist College. Hudson, who ranked fourth in scoring nationally as a junior, returned for his senior season in 2008-09 and was second nationally in scoring (behind Davidson's Stephen Curry) at 27.5 points a contest. Hudson earned numerous honors (including OVC Player of the Year and OVC Male Athlete of the Year in each 2008 and 2009 and All-American status from several outlets) before being drafted by the Boston Celtics with the No. 58 pick of the 2009 NBA Draft.

Murray State guard Isaiah Canaan, a first-team All-American in 2011-12, capped his illustrious career in 2012-13 by becoming just the 17th player in OVC history to score 2,000 or more career points (and the third player in the past three years to do so), Canaan, who was a key part of Murray State NCAA Tournament victories in both 2010 and 2012, earned a pair of OVC Player of the Year honors (2012 and 2013) during his career as well as being named OVC Freshman of the Year (2010), OVC Tournament MVP (2010) and OVC Male Athlete of the Year (2012).

Women's basketball in the OVC has been dominated by Tennessee Tech, which has won or shared 18 regular-season titles and owns nine OVC Tournament crowns. In fact, the Golden Eagles have reached the championship game of the OVC Tournament 22 times in the past 32 years. Although Tennessee Tech remains the standard-bearer, five other teams have won 13 of the last 20 OVC Tournaments. UT Martin became the latest program to add its name to the list, capturing its first OVC Tournament title in 2011 and also winning championships in 2012 and 2013. The Skyhawks were the first team to three-peat since

FORMER COMMISSIONERS OF THE OVC



Art Guepe
(1963-75)



Paul Dietzel
(1975-76)



Bob Vanatta
(1976-79)



Jim Delany
(1979-89)



Dan Beebe
(1989-2003)



Dr. Jon Steinbrecher
(2003-09)



Austin Peay won four-straight titles from 2000-03. Austin Peay leads the remaining teams with seven crowns while Tennessee State, Eastern Kentucky, Murray State and Southeast Missouri each have won titles during that span.

Several coaches have made their mark in the history of OVC women's basketball. Former Tennessee Tech coach Marynell Meadors posted an amazing 363-139 (72.3%) record at Tech, becoming the first woman in NCAA or AIAW history to win 300 games at the same institution, while former Tennessee State skipper Teresa Phillips earned National Coach of the Year honors from USA Today in 1990 for turning around the Lady Tigers' program before going on to lead TSU to the NCAA Tournament in 1994 and 1995. Tennessee Tech coach Bill Worrell capped a stellar 20-year career in 2005-06 and was inducted into the OVC Hall of Fame in 2007; he compiled a 408-190 record while leading the Golden Eagles to an unprecedented 16 OVC regular-season titles and eight NCAA Tournament appearances, including five straight from 1989-93. Larry Joe Inman, who retired at the conclusion of the 2007-08 season and was inducted into the OVC Hall of Fame in 2009, won more than 100 games at both Middle Tennessee and Eastern Kentucky, and earned OVC Coach of the Year honors a record eight times - five times at EKU and three at MTSU. In 2012-13 Inman came out of retirement to take the Tennessee State job.

Many great players have graced the hardwood over the years, including former OVC Players of the Year Brooke Armistead and Gerlonda Hardin from Austin Peay, Pam Chambers, Jerilyn Harper, Cheryl Taylor, Angela Moorehead, Roschelle Vaughn, Diane Seng, Janet Holt and Emily Christian from Tennessee Tech; Morehead State's Donna Murphy, Priscilla Blackford and Chynna Bozeman; Eastern Kentucky's Kim Mays; Southeast Missouri's Gray C. Harris; and Murray State's Ashley Hayes.

Bozeman finished her collegiate career in 2010-11 by winning her second consecutive OVC Player of the Year award. Her 2,170 points ranks her eighth all-time in OVC history, her 377 made career 3-pointers is first in OVC history and sixth in NCAA history and her 1,096 career 3-point attempts ranks first in OVC history and second in NCAA history.

Morehead State center Brittany Pittman set new school, league and NCAA standards for blocked shots in 2008-09. Pittman swatted 164 shots during the season, setting a new NCAA single-season record (which has since been broken). During the campaign, only her second with the Eagles, she also set career block records for both Morehead State and the OVC (287).

In 2012-13 the UT Martin duo of Jasmine Newsome and Heather Butler finished fifth and sixth nationally among NCAA scoring leaders. Newsome, the 2012 and 2013 OVC Player of the Year, averaged 22.6 points per game on the way to All-American honors while Butler averaged 22.4 points per contest. Butler set a NCAA record during the season by connecting on a 3-pointer in her 80th-straight game.

The league also had another historical moment in November 2008 when the NCAA awarded Nashville the 2014 NCAA Women's Division I Final Four. The OVC will serve as the host of the prestigious event, which is one of the biggest sporting events the city of Nashville can host. The event will be held April 6 & 8 at Bridgestone Arena in downtown Nashville.

Over its 65 years, OVC teams have garnered national championships and bowl games in football, along with national team or individual titles in the sports of rifle, cross country,

track and golf.

The playing field is not the only place where OVC athletes are working hard. The league also recognizes excellence in the classroom. Six Scholar-Athlete Awards are presented yearly to male and female athletes, while others are commended for their academic success by being Medal of Honor recipients or earning a spot on the Commissioner's Honor Roll. Additionally, the league annually presents one institutional Academic Achievement Award, as well as separate team awards in each Conference-sponsored sport. Since the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) Academic All-America program began, the Ohio Valley Conference has had 215 student-athletes honored with the award, including 36 over the last four years (2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13).

Through the early years of the league, administrators wrestled with fan behavior due to the close proximity of the Conference members and the intense rivalries which developed. Just as it did decades ago, the OVC took the leadership role on what has become a national issue. In 1995, the OVC implemented a first-of-its-kind "Sportsmanship Statement," a policy which promotes principles of fair play, ethical conduct and respect for one's opponent. The statement has become a model for others to follow across the nation, and has answered the challenge of the NCAA Presidents Commission to improve sportsmanship in collegiate athletics.

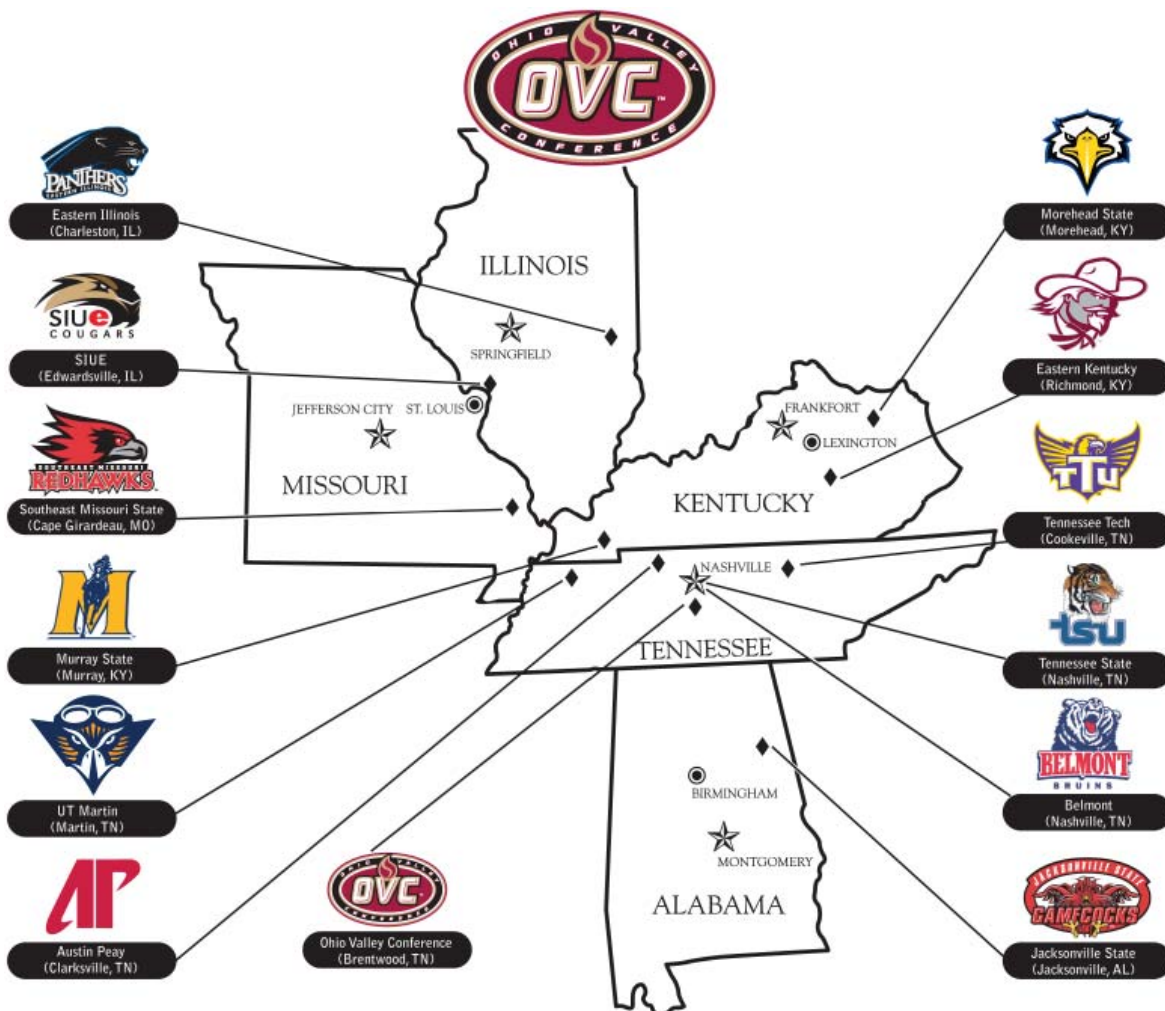
Additionally, the OVC annually presents the Steve Hamilton Sportsmanship Award, in honor of the former Morehead State student-athlete, coach and athletics director, to a junior or senior student-athlete with significant athletic contributions who best exemplifies the characteristics of sportsmanship and citizenship. Most recently, the Conference has also implemented the OVC Institutional and Team Sportsmanship Awards, which are presented to one institution and 18 sport-specific teams voted by their peers to have best exhibited the standards of sportsmanship and ethical conduct as outlined by the OVC and NCAA.

The vision of leadership demonstrated by the Founding Fathers in 1948 remains alive today as the Ohio Valley Conference prepares for the future. One example is in regard to the current trend in collegiate athletics administration for increased involvement of university presidents in setting policies and making rules. The presidents of OVC institutions, however, have always governed the Conference, long before presidential governance became a national theme.

The Ohio Valley Conference sponsors the following sports: baseball, basketball, cross country, football, golf, tennis and track for men, and basketball, cross country, golf, soccer, softball, tennis, track and volleyball for women. In addition, the OVC also sponsors the combined men's and women's sport of rifle.

Now in its seventh decade of competition, the Ohio Valley Conference has grown significantly from its humble beginnings while increasing the number of athletics opportunities it provides for students. Current league representatives include charter members Eastern Kentucky University, Morehead State University and Murray State University, along with Austin Peay State University, Belmont University, Eastern Illinois University, Jacksonville State University, Southeast Missouri State University, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, Tennessee State University, Tennessee Technological University and the University of Tennessee at Martin.

A LOOK AT THE OVC



OVC HONORS AND AWARDS

The Ohio Valley Conference implemented a first-of-its-kind "Sportsmanship Statement," a policy promoting fair play, ethical conduct and respect for one's opponent in 1995. The statement answered a challenge of the NCAA Presidents Commission to improve sportsmanship in college athletics, and has become a model for others to follow across the nation.

The development of the OVC sportsmanship statement began in June 1993 at the direction of the league's presidents. A committee made up of athletics directors and faculty representatives drafted the initial statement, and all coaches and other administrators had the opportunity for input. The statement sets forth expectations for spirit groups, officials and fans, as well as the student-athletes and coaches. Here is a brief synopsis of each group's expectations within the sportsmanship statement.

Administrators: Institutional administrators will create an environment of hospitality for visiting teams, particularly for those individuals at Conference institutions. Administrators will treat the visiting teams and its fans in the same manner that they would want their teams to be treated.

Coaches: Coaches have the greatest amount of influence over whether young people in their programs are taught and follow the high principles of sportsmanship. The OVC has been benefited by coaches who have risked losing a contest by removing student-athletes who have demonstrated disrespect for their opponents. This discipline measure educates that individual about the importance of sportsmanship over participation and winning, and helps counteract the constant messages received from many professional athletes who demonstrate a lack of respect for opponents.

Student-Athletes: Student-athletes at OVC institutions will be expected to treat opponents with sportsmanship, and there will be no tolerance for taunting and baiting of opponents. OVC student-athletes must understand that they are perhaps the most visible representatives of their institutions and their behavior is observed and emulated by many who are younger. OVC student-athletes must honor the responsibilities that accompany the privilege of representing our schools by behaving with dignity and class on and off the field.

Spirit Groups: Like our student-athletes, spirit groups are visible representatives of our universities, and they are expected to show decent behavior. Cheerleaders, bands and other spirit groups are admitted to contests to support their teams and assist in creating a fun atmosphere, but they will not be allowed to disrupt or confront opposing teams.

Officials: Officials will enforce the rules regarding sportsmanship without tolerance for abuse. Players and coaches will receive their only warning prior to the contest, and once the contest begins, penalties will be assessed for violations of unsportsmanlike conduct.

Fans: We know all fans are embarrassed by the inappropriate behavior of a few who may engage in confrontational and threatening actions towards officials, visiting fans, players or coaches. Those individuals may be dismissed to provide a better environment for others.

The Conference believes that the effort to meet the expectations outlined in the sportsmanship statement will increase the attractiveness at our athletics events by creating a healthy environment for competition. A complete copy of the sportsmanship statement can be obtained by calling the OVC office at (615) 371-1698.

The OVC has a variety of awards to recognize sportsmanship by its student-athletes, coaches, administrators and teams. In 1998, the OVC

established the Steve Hamilton Sportsmanship Award, presented annually to a male or female junior or senior student-athlete who best exemplifies the characteristics of the former Morehead State student-athlete, coach and administrator. Hamilton is the only individual to have ever played in a NCAA Basketball Championship, a Major League Baseball World Series (New York Yankees) and a National Basketball Association Championship Series (Minnesota Lakers).

In 2003-04 the League began awarding the Institutional Sportsmanship Award, given to the OVC member institution selected by its peers to have best exhibited the standards of sportsmanship and ethical conduct as outlined by the OVC and NCAA. In 2005-06 the League expanded the sportsmanship award program by adding the Team Sportsmanship Award. An award is given to each sport sponsored by the OVC and is voted on by the student-athletes and coaches of the respective sports.

OVC SPORTSMANSHIP HONOREES

Steve Hamilton Sportsmanship Award Winners

1998-99	Julie Virta (women's basketball), Austin Peay
1999-00	Michael Turner (men's basketball), Murray State
2000-01	Kelly Pendleton (women's basketball), Tennessee-Martin
2001-02	Grant Swallows (football), Tennessee Tech
2002-03	Brooke Armistead (women's basketball), Austin Peay
2003-04	Kandi Brown (women's basketball), Morehead State
2004-05	Cassandra Peek (women's basketball), Austin Peay
2005-06	Zac Schlader (men's basketball), Austin Peay
2006-07	Adonia Bivins (women's soccer), Austin Peay
2007-08	Beth Boden (softball), Tennessee Tech
2008-09	Carrie Burggraf (track & field), Austin Peay
2009-10	Carrie Burggraf (track & field), Austin Peay
2010-11	Abby O'Connor (volleyball), Eastern Kentucky
2011-12	Jon Clinard (baseball), Austin Peay
2012-13	Sean Bailey (tennis), Austin Peay

Institutional Sportsmanship Award Winners

2003-04	Southeast Missouri State University
2004-05	Samford University
2005-06	Samford University
2006-07	Morehead State University
2007-08	Austin Peay State University
2008-09	Eastern Kentucky University
2009-10	Eastern Kentucky University
2010-11	Southeast Missouri State University
2011-12	Tennessee Technological University
2012-13	Eastern Kentucky University

Basketball Team Sportsmanship Award Winners

2005-06	Samford (men and women)
2006-07	Eastern Kentucky (m), Morehead State (w)
2007-08	Austin Peay (m), Samford (w)
2008-09	Austin Peay (m), Murray State (w)
2009-10	Murray State (m), Southeast Missouri (w)
2010-11	UT Martin (m), UT Martin (w)
2011-12	SIUE (men and women)
2012-13	Eastern Illinois (men and women)

OVC HALL OF FAME

The Ohio Valley Conference organized a Hall of Fame in 1977. Membership is limited to coaches, administrators, faculty and staff members who have been associated with the OVC for at least five (5) years and have had extensive outstanding service to the Conference. Unless a tie in the selection procedure occurs, there shall be no more than three (3) inductees annually. Voting for the award is done in the spring and the induction takes place at the OVC Honors Luncheon, which is held annually at the end of May. Following the 2013 ceremony, the Hall of Fame now has 71 members.

Dr. Joe Morgan, APSU (1977)	Mr. P.V. Overall, TTU (1981)	Mr. Edward S. Temple, TSU (1995)	Mr. Karl Park, EKU (2005)
Mr. Charles Hughes, EKU (1977)	Mr. Arthur L. Guepe, OVC (1982)	Mr. John Ogles, APSU (1996)	Dr. Geri Polvino, EKU (2005)
Dr. Robert Martin, EKU (1977)	Mr. Charles M. Murphy, MTSU (1982)	Dr. Guy Penny, MOR (1996)	Mr. Dan Beebe, OVC (2006)
Dr. Adron Doran, MOR (1977)	Mr. Malcolm P. Quillen, TTU (1984)	Dr. Arliss Roaden, TTU (1996)	Mr. Paul McBrayer, EKU (2006)
Mr. Roy Stewart, MUR (1977)	Mr. Ellis T. Johnson, MOR (1985)	Mr. John Stanford, MTSU (1997)	Mr. Don Wade, TTU (2006)
Dr. W.E. Derryberry, TTU (1977)	Mr. John "Sonny" Allen, MOR (1987)	Dr. Kala Stroup, MUR / SEMO (1997)	Dr. Thurston Banks, TTU (2007)
Mr. Hooper Eblen, TTU (1997)	Mr. Wilburn Tucker, TTU (1987)	Dr. Margaret N. Perry, UTM (1998)	Mr. Steve Newton, MTSU (2007)
Dr. Kelly Thompson, WKU (1977)	Mr. Johnny Reagan, MUR (1988)	Dr. Leon Bibb, APSU (1999)	Mr. Bill Worrell, TTU (2007)
Mr. Ed Diddle, Sr., WKU (1977)	Dr. George Fisher, APSU (1988)	Mr. Cal Luther, MUR / UTM (2000)	Mr. Elvis Green, MUR (2008)
Mr. L.T. Smith, WKU (1977)	Mr. John Oldham, WKU / TTU (1989)	Mr. R.L. "Buddy" Patey, OVC (2000)	Mr. Joey Haines, SEMO/AP (2009)
Dr. Dave Aaron, APSU (1978)	Mr. Jimmy Earle, MTSU (1989)	Dr. Nolan Fowler, MOR / TTU (2001)	Mr. Larry Inman, EKU/MTSU (2009)
Mr. Bob Laughlin, MOR (1978)	Dr. Sam Ingram, MTSU (1990)	Dr. Angelo Volpe, TTU (2001)	Mr. Chuck Kimmel, APSU (2010)
Mr. Ted Hornback, WKU (1978)	Mr. Bennie Purcell, MUR (1990)	Mr. Jim Ward, EKU (2002)	Mr. David Mays, TTU (2010)
Dr. Quill E. Cope, MTSU (1978)	Mr. Donald G. Combs, EKU (1991)	Mr. Roy Kidd, EKU (2003)	Mr. Ron English, OVC (2011)
Mr. J.D. Rayburn, MUR (1979)	Mr. Steve Hamilton, MOR (1991)	Dr. Bobby Barton, EKU (2004)	Mr. Bobby Nichols, TTU (2011)
Mr. Nick Denes, WKU (1979)	Mr. James E. Delany, OVC (1992)	Mr. Wayne Martin, MOR (2004)	Mr. Bob Spoo, EIU (2012)
Mr. Raymond H. Brown, TTU (1980)	Mr. E.K. Patty, MTSU (1993)	Mr. Bill Cornell, MUR (2005)	Dr. Martha Mullins, EKU (2013)
Dr. Dero G. Downing, WKU (1980)	Ms. Marynell Meadors, TTU (1993)	Dr. David Larimore, TTU (2005)	

Beth DeBauche - Commissioner



Elizabeth (Beth) DeBauche was named Commissioner of the Ohio Valley Conference on July 29, 2009 and began her duties with the league in September 2009.

DeBauche (pronounced De-BUSH) is the seventh full-time Commissioner in the 63-year history of the OVC. She follows Art Guepe (1963-75), Paul Dietzel (1975-76), Bob Vanatta (1976-79), Jim Delany (1979-89), Dan Beebe (1989-2003) and Dr. Jon A. Steinbrecher (2003-09).

DeBauche is one of just eight females to be the head of a Division I Conference in 2013-14.

In May 2011 the league announced the addition of Belmont University to the OVC beginning in 2012-13. The addition of Belmont brought the OVC to 12 teams, the largest membership total in league history.

DeBauche will serve as the Chair of the Nashville Local Organizing Committee (NLOC) for the 2014 NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Final Four. The Ohio Valley Conference will serve as the host institution of the event which will be held at Bridgestone Arena in Nashville on April 6 and 8.

Under DeBauche the league started an extensive strategic planning and branding initiative which led to the development of the league's first tagline of "Inspiring Excellence Since 1948." The project also produced the league's first 30-second PSA commercial in over a decade as well as a longer feature video highlighting the Conference.

During the 2012-13 school DeBauche oversaw the switch of the league's web streaming efforts to a free access model which was rebranded the OVC Digital Network (OVCDN). The new OVCDN included HD video for the first time and was made available on any platform/device. The Digital Network focuses on both athletic competition as well as telling the story of OVC and its member institutions. In its first year as a free service the OVC Digital Network saw extreme growth in viewership.

In her four years with the league the OVC has seen postseason success men's basketball as Murray State topped Vanderbilt in the first round of the NCAA Tournament in 2010, Morehead State beat Louisville in the second round in 2011 and Murray State bested Colorado State in the second round in 2012. Overall the league has won NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament games in four of the past five years, including four-straight years (2009-12) for the first-time in league history.

OVC student-athletes have continued to achieve high levels of success not only on the field but also in the classroom. The league has consistently seen record number of honorees on the OVC Medal of Honor and OVC Commissioner's Honor Roll lists during her tenure. During the past four years 38 OVC

student-athletes have been named CoSIDA Academic All-Americans.

In 2012-13 DeBauche helped spearhead a year-long celebration of the 40th Anniversary of Title IX. As part of the celebration each of the OVC's 12-member institutions identified a pioneer in women's athletics and gender equality from their school to be honored during the year and celebrated at a home athletic event on their campus. The celebration was capped in May when those honorees were recognized at a special luncheon as part of the OVC Spring Meetings.

DeBauche currently serves on the NCAA Committee on Athletic Certification, the NCAA Division I Leadership Council and the NCAA Rules Working Group.

From August 2002 through August 2009 DeBauche, along with the vice-president of Division I, was responsible for coordinating Division I initiatives through the NCAA governance structure, as well as helping to manage the Division I agenda. Her duties included developing agendas and providing leadership for the Division I Board of Directors, Presidential Advisory Group and the Leadership Council. DeBauche has overseen the entire Division I governance structure and worked directly with the Legislative Council, the six cabinets and the supporting communications and coordination committee.

She was also a liaison to governance representatives, external constituent groups and NCAA staff regarding legislative and governance activities. That role required DeBauche to have regular interaction with the Collegiate Commissioner's Association (CCA), the CCA Compliance Coordinators, the Division I-A Athletics Directors Association, the National Association of Collegiate Women Athletics Administrators (NACWAA) and the Faculty Athletics Representatives Association (FARA). DeBauche also served as a liaison to the Women's Basketball Issues Committee, the Presidential Oversight and Monitoring Group, the Men's Basketball Academic Enhancement Group, the Presidential Task Force on Commercial Activity in Intercollegiate Athletics and the Two-Year College Relations Panel.

In 2008, DeBauche was named the NACWAA Conference/Organization Administrator of the Year.

Prior to her work at the NCAA, DeBauche worked at the Southeastern Conference (SEC) from November 1996 through August 2002. As an assistant and later associate commissioner, she managed all aspects of the SEC's rules compliance program. DeBauche provided NCAA and SEC rules interpretations, developing rules education materials and programming, conducting compliance reviews and assisting member institutions with the NCAA certification program. At times during her tenure, she also served as the league's liaison to the faculty athletics representatives, the compliance coordinators, directors of academic support and Student-Athletes Advisory Committee (SAAC) as well as the sports liaison to the leagues women's golf, women's tennis and women's volleyball coaches.

From 1996 to 1998 DeBauche was the Director of the National Letter of Intent (NLI) Program for the Collegiate Commissioners Association (CCA). In that role she was the administrator in charge of issuing all NLI rules interpretations, creating rules education materials and providing NLI rules education presentations as well as being the primary information resource for parents, student-athletes and the media.

DeBauche got her start in collegiate athletics at Vanderbilt University where she was the Assistant Athletic Director for Compliance from August 1994 to November 1996.

DeBauche received her Bachelor of Arts degree in history and government from Saint Mary's College (Ind.) and earned her Master's Degree in communications from Notre Dame. After completing the Concannon Program of International Law in London, England, DeBauche received her Juris Doctorate from the Notre Dame School of Law.

A member of the Illinois, Wisconsin and Georgia Bar, following law school graduation DeBauche worked as an attorney in each Green Bay, Atlanta and Marietta, as well as serving as a Judicial Clerk to P. Harris Hines, who is currently serving on the Georgia Superior Court.

DeBauche has been a member of the Notre Dame Club of Indianapolis Board of Directors, as well as a graduate of the Sports Management Institute and a participant in the Division I-A Athletic Directors Institute. She is a board member with the Nashville Sports Council, a member of the Nashville Catholic Business Women's League, the women's networking group CABLE and the Nashville Rotary.



Brad Walker - Associate Commissioner/Operations



Brad Walker was named Associate Commissioner for Operations/Chief Operating Officer at the Ohio Valley Conference on Oct. 19, 2007 and began his duties at the OVC in Nov. 2007.

Entering his seventh year at the OVC in 2013-14, Walker served as the League's Interim Commissioner from May until mid-September 2009. He was also a member of the Division I Championships/Sports Management Cabinet from 2009-11.

In September 2012 Walker began a five-year term on the NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Committee, where he will help

administer the women's basketball championship.

Walker's responsibilities at the OVC include the day-to-day operations of the Conference office, including financial operations, as well as developing schedules and providing oversight for football and men's basketball, scheduling and oversee baseball, serving as a liaison with officiating coordinators and coaching groups, overseeing bidding for and directing of NCAA championship events (including the 2012 NCAA Men's Basketball Championship 2nd/3rd Rounds which the OVC hosted in Nashville), coordination of the Conference television properties and serving as the director of the men's and women's basketball tournament among other things.

Walker joined the OVC after seven-plus years at the West Coast Conference (WCC), which is headquartered just south of San Francisco. He joined the WCC in Oct. 2001 as Director of Communications and was later promoted to Assistant Commissioner and Associate Commissioner. He was responsible for coordinating the marketing efforts for the WCC's 13 sports, as well as handling all aspects of television, including contract negotiations. That included taking the lead role in negotiating the WCC's largest television contract in league history, a five-year agreement with ESPN. He also worked closely with the league's corporate partner program, producing conference schedules for the six round-robin sports, including basketball, as well as handling championship management duties.

Walker previous worked at the Mid-Continent Conference as Assistant Director of Media Relations and at Holy Cross College in Worcester, Mass. He completed his degree in marketing at Bentley College (Waltham, Mass.) in May 1996. He was an all-conference basketball player at Bentley, serving as team captain his senior season.

The Milwaukee, Wis. native is a 2004 graduate of the NCAA Leadership Institute for Ethnic Minority Males. Walker and his wife Sonya were married in December 2010.

Jennifer Gibbs - Asst. Commissioner/Championships



Jennifer Gibbs joined the Ohio Valley Conference staff in October 2006 as assistant commissioner for championships. In addition to overseeing the administration of the OVC's 18 championship sports, Gibbs also serves as the Conference Senior Woman Administrator, as well as the staff liaison to select coaching groups and officiating coordinators. She also coordinates the league's Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) and the OVC's merchandise, awards and internship programs.

Gibbs was a staff member on Nashville's Bid Committee that successfully landed the Division I NCAA Women's Final Four for the city in 2014; this year she will serve as the Tournament Director for that event.

She has also served as a timeout coordinator for the Men's and Women's Division I NCAA Basketball Tournament. In 2012 she served as the assistant tournament manager for the Division I Men's Basketball Championship 2nd/3rd Rounds held in Nashville.

Gibbs joined the OVC after serving as sales coordinator for the Nashville Predators of the National Hockey League (NHL). In that role, she was charged with preparing corporate sponsorship proposals, tracking weekly

sales activity and identifying new business prospects.

Prior to joining the Predators, Gibbs was a championships assistant with the Sun Belt Conference, where she was involved in all facets of coordinating the league's championship events.

A native of Port Edwards, Wis., Gibbs received her post-secondary and graduate education at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, where she was awarded an undergraduate degree in sport management and a master's degree in sport administration. While attending the master's program at Wisconsin-La Crosse, Gibbs served as a graduate assistant in the athletics department, assisting with event management. She also spent seven years as the aquatics coordinator for the city of La Crosse, managing the day-to-day operations for five aquatic facilities.

Jennifer and her husband Matt were married in August 2008.

Kyle Schwartz - Asst. Commissioner/Media Relations



Kyle Schwartz joined the Ohio Valley Conference as Assistant Commissioner for Media Relations in Nov. 2006. He is in charge of publicity efforts for the Conference and is the primary contact for football, men's basketball, baseball, men's and women's cross country and men's and women's golf among other duties. He also serves as the media coordinator for the OVC's annual basketball and baseball tournaments and is also in charge of coordinating special events for the Conference, including the Honors Brunch and Hall of Fame.

Schwartz served as a timeout coordinator for the 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournaments and worked with the CoSIDA group at the Final Fours in Detroit, Indianapolis, Houston and New Orleans. In 2012 he served as the Media Coordinator for the NCAA Men's Basketball Second/Third Rounds that the OVC hosted in Nashville. In 2013 he served on the Media Coordination Committee for the Women's Final Four in New Orleans and this year he will serve as the Local Media Coordinator for the 2014 Women's Final Four which will be held at Bridgestone Arena in Nashville.

Schwartz came to the OVC after spending four and a half years at the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley, Colo. There he served as the Assistant Director of Media Relations for two years, was promoted to Media Relations Coordinator in July 2004 and served as Director of Media Relations in his final year.

At Northern Colorado, Schwartz helped coordinate the media efforts of two NCAA, two conference and six independent championships, including four during the 2005-06 school year. Schwartz was honored by Collegiate Volleyball Update (CVU.com) with the first annual RESPECTing Volleyball (Recognition for Excellence in Supporting and Promoting Volleyball) Award in 2005 and was ranked the No. 3 soccer SID in the country by *Soccer Buzz* magazine in 2004. The 2003 Northern Colorado volleyball guide he wrote, designed and edited won third place honors nationally in the CoSIDA publications contest.

Schwartz also spent two years as a graduate assistant in the Southeast Missouri State sports information department (2000-02). It was at SEMO that Schwartz received his master's degree in athletic administration, graduating with honors. Schwartz received his bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Kentucky in May 2000, graduating cum laude. As an undergraduate, he interned with the Host Communications publishing group and also worked with the Kentucky Thoroughblades minor league hockey team.

Schwartz, a native of Flemingsburg, Ky., is a member of the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) and has served on CoSIDA's Academic All-American committee as a district coordinator since June 2003. He also serves on the NCAA Statistics and Records Advisory Board. Schwartz and his wife, Angella, were married in June 2004.

Brian Pulley - Asst. Commissioner/External Affairs



Brian Pulley was named Assistant Commissioner for External Affairs on August 7, 2007 and enters his seventh year with the Conference in 2013-14.

With the OVC Pulley duties include overseeing the league's web streaming efforts, which included an overhaul and rebranding into the OVC Digital Network in 2012-13. The web streaming changed to a free model with HD-quality and availability across all platforms which dramatically increased viewership.

He is also the liaison for the Conference's multimedia rights holder, IMG College.

Pulley helped develop and executive a comprehensive marketing plan for the OVC Basketball Championship as the event expanded and moved to Municipal Auditorium in Nashville prior to the 2010-11 season. The 2012 OVC Basketball Tournament saw the second-highest attendance at a neutral site in the event's history.

Pulley will serve as the Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) and Youth Clinics liaison for the 2014 NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Final Four in Nashville.

Pulley brought over five years of sales experience to his current position, including completing an internship with the Conference in 2005-06. He has cultivated relationships for an array of business types and brings a comprehensive knowledge of game day operations as it applies to corporate activation.

Pulley came to the OVC after being an account executive with ISP Sports in Atlanta, Ga., where he was responsible for soliciting and cultivating corporate partners for Georgia Tech Athletics. He also helped develop and implement promotions for Georgia Tech football, baseball and men's basketball as well as being responsible for managing advertising inventory for Georgia Tech.

Pulley, a native of Springfield, Tenn., received his bachelor's degree in public relations from Middle Tennessee State University in December 1998. He completed his master's of science degree in sports administration from Belmont University in May 2006.

It was during graduate school that he served as an intern with the Ohio Valley Conference, helping establish a group sales base, formulating a marketing plan and assisting with the OVC Basketball Championship among other duties.

Pulley is active with the Big Brother Big Sisters of Middle Tennessee.

He and his wife Ashley were married in April 2011 and became proud parents to Ava Mae in July 2013.

Heather Brown - Director of Media Relations



Heather Brown is in her 10th year with the Ohio Valley Conference in 2013-14. After the completion of a 10-month internship with the OVC, she served in the position of Assistant Director for Media Relations until her promotion of Director of Media Relations in Dec. 2006.

Brown, the longest tenured member of the OVC staff, is the primary contact for soccer, volleyball, women's basketball, softball, men's and women's track and field, men's and women's rifle and men's and women's tennis.

Brown has done extensive work with NCAA Championships, first serving as the assistant media relations coordinator for the first and second rounds of the 2005 NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Championship and the Second and Third Rounds of the 2012 Championship in Nashville. She has also worked the first and second round of the NCAA Women's Tournament in each 2004, 2006 and 2007 and the Men's Basketball Tournament in 2008 and 2011. In 2012 she worked the Women's Final Four in New Orleans.

This year she will serve as the Local Media Coordinator for the 2014 Division I NCAA Women's Final Four which will be held at Bridgestone Arena in Nashville. Along with that role she has served on the Legacy Committee for the event.

Brown was instrumental in getting the OVC started in the social network/new media phenomenon, starting both Facebook and Twitter accounts for the league.

Prior to working with the Conference, the West Liberty, Ohio, native served a three-month internship in the sports information office at The Ohio State University after a one-year stint as a student assistant in the Bowling Green State University sports information office.

A 2003 graduate of BGSU, Brown earned a bachelor's degree in sports management with an emphasis in sports information. She is a member of the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA).

Jon Kuka - General Manger, OVC IMG Sports Marketing



Jon Kuka joined the Ohio Valley Conference staff in April 2010 as the General Manager for OVC IMG Sports Marketing. Kuka brought over 10 years in sales and sports marketing experience to the position.

He joined the Conference staff as part of the OVC's agreement with IMG College which was signed in February 2008. With the deal, IMG represents the OVC through category exclusive corporate partnership sales, as well as multimedia rights for the men's basketball championship and other championship events.

In 2011 and 2012 Kuka was the recipient of the prestigious IMG Chairman's Cup Award.

Prior to joining the OVC Kuka was the Director of Sales for Nelligan Sports Marketing at Middle Tennessee State University for two years. In that position he managed corporate sponsorships and initiated multimedia marketing rights for the Blue Raiders athletic department.

From 2001-07 Kuka worked in Knoxville with the Tennessee Smokies baseball club, the AA affiliate of the Chicago Cubs. He began as a group sales representative and was promoted to Director of Group Sales and eventually Director of Sales. As the Director of Sales, Kuka oversaw ticket sales and corporate sponsorships sales.

Kuka received his bachelor's degree in sports administration from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga in 2000. While in school Kuka interned with the Chattanooga Sports & Events Committee that assisted in marketing the city for attracting events such as the NCAA Division I Football National Championship. He was also a member of Phi Delta Theta fraternity, the university cycling club and a participant in the 1999 Collegiate Mountain Bike National Championships.

Kuka completed his MBA from Ohio Valley Conference member Tennessee Tech University in 2009.

A native of Chattanooga, Kuka resides with his wife, Alicia, daughter, Leah, and son, Andrew, in the Greater Nashville area.

Mike Dirmann - Account Executive, OVC IMG Sports Marketing



Mike Dirmann joined the OVC as an Account Executive for OVC IMG Sports Marketing in July 2013.

The OVC's agreement with IMG College was signed in February 2008. With the deal, IMG represents the OVC through category exclusive corporate partnership sales, as well as multimedia rights for the men's basketball championship and other championship events.

Dirmann came to the OVC after completing his Master's in Sports Administration and Master's in Business Administration at

Ohio University. While at Ohio University he served as a communications graduate assistant where he coordinated the communication for the Ohio University Center for Sports Administration to alumni, faculty, university staff and the community.

Dirmann earned his undergraduate degree in broadcast journalism from Washington and Lee University in 1998. While in school Dirmann served as the team captain of the Washington and Lee basketball team and was also an All-Academic selection.

From 2000-2010 Dirmann was an award-winning sports anchor and reporter at two different stations, WMGM-TV in Linwood, N.J. and KSLA-TV in Shreveport, La.

Dirmann also worked as the ticket and promotions coordinator for Florida Citrus Sports from Nov. 2011 to Jan. 2012. There he was responsible for executing promotional packages for both the Champs Sports Bowl and the Capital One Bowl.

Dirmann has also served as a revenue generation consultant for the Big East Conference (Sept. – Dec. 2012) and the National Sports Forum (June 2012).

Jenny Kulchar - Administrative Assistant



Jenny Kulchar, who joined the Conference in February 2010, serves as the Administrative Assistant to the Commissioner and OVC staff.

Prior to joining the OVC, Kulchar spent a year and a half with Dye, Van Mol & Lawrence, a public relations firm in downtown Nashville, as a receptionist where she performed administrative duties for the accounting department and worked on various client accounts including Bridgestone and Jack Daniels.

Kulchar moved to Nashville in January 2007 to complete her degree with an internship in the publicity department at Provident Label Group. After graduating she gained temporary employment at L.A.B. Media as the PR Coordinator.

She continued her administrative and public relations career as the Office Manager for New Business Development in addition to being the Business and PR Liaison for Make It Beautiful, a nonprofit organization.

Kulchar, a 2007 graduate of Central Michigan University, earned her bachelors in Integrative Public Relations minoring in Interpersonal and Public Communication with a concentration in the area of event planning.

Curtis Shaw - Coordinator of Men's Basketball Officials



Curtis Shaw is the coordinator of Men's Basketball Officials for the Ohio Valley Conference.

Shaw was annually been recognized as one of the top officials in the nation, having worked six NCAA Final Fours, including the 2009 NCAA Championship game. He was selected to officiate NCAA Tournament games for 18 consecutive years, including regional games from 2004 through 2010.

After working the 2010 Final Four, Shaw retired from active officiating duty to work full-time as an officials coordinator. It was

announced in May 2010 that Shaw would head a consortium for men's officiating with the OVC, Big 12, Conference USA and the Southland Conferences.

Shaw served as the OVC's Coordinator of Women's Basketball Officials from 2001-02 through the 2010-11 season before relinquishing those duties to concentrate on the men's officiating program.

A fixture at numerous postseason conference tournaments and league championship games, Shaw worked the NIT Season Tipoff and postseason NIT. During the course of his career, he has officiated games in the Big 12, Atlantic Coast, Big East, Big Ten, Southeastern, Missouri Valley, Ohio Valley, Sun Belt, Atlantic Sun, Southland, Southern and Western Athletic conferences. He also saw action in Conference USA, the Horizon League and Colonial Athletic Association.

He earned his Bachelor's of Science degree in Exercise Health and Leisure Science (Sport Administration concentration) from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga in 2008. Born in Paducah, Ky. on May 31, 1960, he currently resides in Indianapolis, Ind. and has two children.

Sally Bell - Coordinator of Women's Basketball Officials



Sally Bell was named Coordinator of Women's Basketball Officials for the Ohio Valley Conference in March 2011.

Bell, who has over 30 years of college women's basketball officiating experience, will be responsible for the recruiting, training, assigning and evaluating of women's basketball officials for the league. She also works with the Atlantic Sun, Southeastern, Southland, Southwestern Athletic and Sun Belt Conferences.

Bell began officiating high school basketball in 1975, moved on to NAIA and NJCAA games in 1979, and first officiated Division I and II games in 1981. She officiated 15 Women's Final Fours, including 13 straight from 1993-2005 and in 1991 was named the Naismith College Women's Basketball Official of the Year by the Atlanta Tipoff Club.

The Dublin, Ga. native received a bachelor's degree from the University of Georgia in 1975 and a master's degree from North Georgia College in 1981. Her international officiating experience includes the 2000 Olympic Exhibition in Honolulu, Hawaii; 1996 Summer Olympic Games in Atlanta, 1994 Goodwill Games in St. Petersburg, Russia; 1993 World University Games in Buffalo, New York; and 1990 World Championships in Malaysia. She also served as a member of the U.S. Olympic Selection Committee for officials from 1996-2004.

Bell and her husband, Jack, reside in Dahlonega, Ga.

NCAA DIVISION I CONFERENCE ALIGNMENTS

AMERICA EAST (8)

Albany (N.Y.)
Binghamton
Hartford
Maine
UMBC
New Hampshire
Stony Brook
Vermont

AMERICAN ATHLETIC (10)

Cincinnati
Connecticut
Houston
Louisville
Memphis
Rutgers
SMU
South Florida
Temple
UCF

ATLANTIC COAST (15)

Boston College
Clemson
Duke
Florida State
Georgia Tech
Maryland
Miami (Fla.)
North Carolina
North Carolina State
Notre Dame
Pittsburgh
Syracuse
Virginia
Virginia Tech
Wake Forest

ATLANTIC SUN (9)

East Tenn. State
Florida Gulf Coast
Jacksonville
Kennesaw State
Lipscomb
Mercer
North Florida
S.C. Upstate
Stetson

ATLANTIC 10 (13)

Dayton
Duquesne
Fordham
George Mason
George Washington
La Salle
Massachusetts
Rhode Island
Richmond
St. Bonaventure
St. Joseph's
St. Louis
VCU

BIG EAST (10)

Butler
Creighton
DePaul
Georgetown
Marquette
Providence
St. John's (N.Y.)
Seton Hall
Villanova
Xavier

BIG SKY (11)

Eastern Washington
Idaho State
Montana
Montana State
North Dakota
Northern Arizona
Northern Colorado
Portland State
Sacramento State
Southern Utah
Weber State

BIG SOUTH (12)

NORTH
Campbell
High Point
Liberty
Longwood
Radford
VMI

SOUTH

Charleston Southern
Coastal Carolina
Gardner-Webb
UNC Asheville
Presbyterian
Winthrop

BIG TEN (12)

Illinois
Indiana
Iowa
Michigan
Michigan State
Minnesota
Nebraska
Northwestern
Ohio State
Penn State
Purdue
Wisconsin

BIG 12 (10)

Baylor
Iowa State
Kansas
Kansas State
Oklahoma
Oklahoma State
TCU
Texas
Texas Tech
West Virginia

BIG WEST (9)

UC Davis
UC Irvine
UC Riverside
UC Santa Barbara
Cal Poly
Cal State Fullerton
Cal State Northridge
Hawaii
Long Beach State

COLONIAL (9)

Charleston
Delaware
Drexel
Hofstra
James Madison
UNC Wilmington
Northeastern
Towson
William & Mary

CONFERENCE USA (16)

Charlotte
East Carolina
Fla. Atlantic
*FIU
Louisiana Tech
Marshall
Middle Tennessee
North Texas
Old Dominion
Rice
Southern Mississippi
Tulane
Tulsa
UAB
UTEP
UTSA

HORIZON (9)

Cleveland State
Detroit
Green Bay
ULC
Milwaukee
Oakland
Valparaiso
Wright State
Youngstown State

IVY (8)

Brown
Columbia
Cornell
Dartmouth
Harvard
Penn
Princeton
Yale

METRO ATLANTIC (11)

Canisius
Fairfield
Iona
Manhattan
Marist
Monmouth
Niagara
Quinnipiac
Rider
St. Peter's
Siena

MID-AMERICAN (12)

EAST
Akron
Bowling Green
Buffalo
Kent State
Miami (Ohio)
Ohio

WEST

Ball State
Central Michigan
Eastern Michigan
Northern Illinois
Toledo
Western Michigan

MID-EASTERN (13)

Bethune-Cookman
Coppin State
Delaware State
Florida A&M
Hampton
Howard
Maryland-Eastern Shore
Morgan State
Norfolk State
N.C. A&T
N.C. Central
Savannah State
South Carolina State

MISSOURI VALLEY (10)

Bradley
Drake
Evansville
Illinois State
Indiana State
Loyola Chicago
Missouri State
UNI
Southern Illinois
Wichita State

MOUNTAIN WEST (11)

Air Force
Boise State
Colorado State
Fresno State
Nevada
UNLV
New Mexico
San Diego State
San Jose State
Utah State
Wyoming

NORTHEAST (10)

Bryant
Central Conn. State
Fairleigh Dickinson
LIU Brooklyn
Mt. St. Mary's
Robert Morris
Sacred Heart
St. Francis (N.Y.)
St. Francis (Pa.)
Wagner

OHIO VALLEY (12)

EAST
Belmont
Eastern Kentucky
Jacksonville State
Morehead State
Tennessee State
Tennessee Tech

WEST

Austin Peay
Eastern Illinois
Murray State
SIUE
Southeast Missouri
UT Martin

PAC-12 (12)

Arizona
Arizona State
California
Colorado
Oregon
Oregon State
Southern California
Stanford
UCLA
Utah
Washington
Washington State

PATRIOT (10)

American
Army
Boston University
Bucknell
Colgate
Holy Cross
Lafayette
Lehigh
Loyola (Md.)
Navy

SOUTHEASTERN (14)

Alabama
Arkansas
Auburn
Florida
Georgia
Kentucky
LSU
Mississippi
Mississippi State
Missouri
South Carolina
Tennessee
Texas A&M
Vanderbilt

SOUTHERN (11)

Appalachian State
Chattanooga
Citadel
Davidson
Elon
Furman
Georgia Southern
UNC Greensboro
Samford
Western Carolina
Wofford

SOUTHLAND (12)

Central Arkansas
Houston Baptist
Lamar
McNeese State
Nicholls State
*New Orleans
Northwestern State
Oral Roberts
Sam Houston State
Southeastern Louisiana
Stephen F. Austin
Texas A&M-Corpus Christi

SOUTHWESTERN (10)

Alabama A&M
Alabama State
Alcorn State
*Arkansas-Pine Bluff
*Grambling
Jackson State
*Mississippi Valley State
Prairie View
Southern University
Texas Southern

SUMMIT (7)

Denver
IPFW
IUPUI
North Dakota State
South Dakota
South Dakota State
Western Illinois

SUN BELT (10)

Arkansas-Little Rock
Arkansas State
Georgia State
Louisiana-Lafayette
Louisiana-Monroe
South Alabama
Texas-Arlington
Texas State
Troy
Western Kentucky

WEST COAST (10)

BYU
Gonzaga
Loyola Marymount
Pacific
Pepperdine
Portland
St. Mary's (Calif.)
San Diego
San Francisco
Santa Clara

WESTERN ATHLETIC (8)

Cal State Bakersfield
Chicago State
Idaho
New Mexico State
Seattle
Texas-Pan American
UMKC
Utah Valley

INDEPENDENTS (1)

NJIT

RECLASSIFYING (6)

America East
UMass-Lowell (2017-18)

Atlantic Sun
Northern Kentucky (2016-17)

Southland
Abilene Christian (2017-18)
Incarnate Word (2017-18)

Summit
Nebraska-Omaha (2015-16)

Western Athletic
Grand Canyon (2017-18)

* Men's Team postseason ineligible

OVC TO HOST 2014 NCAA WOMEN'S FINAL FOUR

On Nov. 14, 2008 the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) informed representatives from the Ohio Valley Conference and the Nashville Sports Council that the City of Nashville has been awarded the 2014 NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Final Four. The event will take place at Bridgestone Arena in downtown Nashville on April 6 and 8 this year.

In conjunction with the NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Final Four, Nashville will also host the Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) National Convention. The WBCA is the national association of approximately 5,000 basketball coaches representing all levels of the game, including junior high, AAU, high school, college and professional.

The process to secure the Division I Women's Final Four began in January 2008 with an initial meeting of the Music City Bid Committee, co-chaired by Vice-Mayor Diane Neighbors and Margaret Behm. The OVC and Nashville Sports Council submitted an official bid to the NCAA in June 2008 and were announced as one of the eight finalists in August 2008. The NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Committee and NCAA staff made a two-day visit to Nashville in mid-October 2008 and Nashville's local bid committee made a final presentation to the NCAA in Indianapolis on Nov. 12, 2008.

"This is great news for Nashville", said Nashville Mayor Karl Dean. "I applaud the Sports Council, the Ohio Valley Conference and the bid committee for all the work they put into making this happen, specifically Vice-Mayor Diane Neighbors and Margaret Behm. This news speaks to what a great destination Nashville is for large events and their participants, and it helps validate the need for a new, much larger convention center downtown. This event is only possible because by 2014 the Music City Center will be open and fully operational. I look forward to Nashville hosting this event and to showing the Women's Final Four participants all that Music City has to offer."

"This is a great day for Music City," said Nashville Vice-Mayor and Music City Bid Committee Co-Chair Diane Neighbors. "The Nashville team worked very hard and produced a fantastic proposal. Over the next six years we will be putting together a Final Four that players, coaches, and fans won't forget. Congratulations Nashville!"

"The community wide support we have received throughout the bid process has been phenomenal," said Music City Bid Committee Co-Chair Margaret Behm. "That broad ranging support coupled with Middle Tennessee's long tradition of celebrating women's basketball makes Nashville the perfect host site for the 2014 Women's Final Four."



OVC Commissioner Beth DeBauche helps Nashville Mayor Karl Dean unveil the official 2014 NCAA Division I Women's Final Four logo.



Bridgestone Arena, the home of the NHL's Nashville Predators, has hosted numerous basketball tournaments, including the 2012 NCAA Division I Men's Basketball 2nd/3rd Rounds, an event in which the Ohio Valley Conference served as the host.

"This is a phenomenal event to celebrate coming to Nashville," said Ohio Valley Conference Commissioner Beth DeBauche. "The Women's Basketball Committee having faith in the OVC and Nashville Sports Council to serve as hosts is a tribute to our organizations. It will be a fun ride to exceed their expectations and make 2014 the best Women's Final Four ever."

"We are pleased that the NCAA has awarded the 2014 Women's Final Four to Nashville," said Nashville Sports Council President & CEO Scott Ramsey. "This event is one of the most high profile annual events on the national sports calendar and will bring tremendous national exposure, prestige and economic impact to our community. We look forward to beginning the planning and preparation to host an unforgettable experience for the student-athletes, fans and everyone associated with the Women's Final Four."

When evaluating prospective host cities, the committee reviewed each city's competition venue, convention center, hotel community, transportation plans, legacy programs and financial commitment, as well as the community's and prospective host institution/conference's overall commitment to the event.

"The women's basketball committee invested a tremendous amount of time and effort in the Women's Final Four site selection process," said Jacki Silar, then chair of the NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Committee. "It was a very difficult and important decision and it was the committee's charge to determine which of the cities would best serve as future host sites for the pinnacle of women's basketball – the Women's Final Four. The committee appreciated the work and effort of each of the cities that participated in this bid selection process. Committee members evaluated each prospective host city based on many criteria, weighing each element's importance and what is critical to successfully host a Women's Final Four."

"The selection of Nashville and the Ohio Valley Conference to host the NCAA Final Four is an example of the quality work this conference does on behalf of the student-athletes that call the OVC home," said Rob Cross, Murray State University head women's basketball coach. "As a conference we certainly value the opportunity to host such a tremendous event in the home of our own tournament championship. We look forward to the rest of the nation seeing what we already know...that the people of this area are extremely passionate about basketball. As the excitement builds for the Final Four in Nashville it will certainly help build upon the reputation the OVC enjoys as an exciting basketball league."

OVC BASKETBALL VENUES



AUSTIN PEAY

Dunn Center/Dave Aaron Arena/Dave Loos Court (7,875)

Opened: 1975

Press Row Phone: (931) 221-7155



EASTERN KENTUCKY

Alumni Coliseum/Paul S. McBrayer Arena (6,500)

Opened: 1963

Press Row Phone: (859) 622-5908



BELMONT

Curb Event Center (5,000)

Opened: 2003

Press Row Phone: (615) 460-8554



JACKSONVILLE STATE

Pete Mathews Coliseum (5,500)

Opened: 1974

Press Row Phone: (256) 782-5583



EASTERN ILLINOIS

Lantz Arena (5,300)

Opened: 1966

Press Row Phone: (217) 581-5135



MOREHEAD STATE

Ellis T. Johnson Arena (6,500)

Opened: 1981

Press Row Phone: (606) 783-2500



MURRAY STATE

CFSB Center (8,600)

Opened: 1998

Press Row Phone: (270) 809-5551



TENNESSEE STATE

Gentry Center/John B. McClendon Court (10,500)

Opened: 1981

Press Row Phone: (615) 963-7616



SOUTHEAST MISSOURI STATE

Show Me Center (7,000)

Opened: 1987

Press Row Phone: (573) 651-5014



TENNESSEE TECH

Eblen Center (9,280)

Opened: 1977

Press Row Phone: (931) 372-6077



SIUE

Sam M. Vadalabene Center (4,000)

Opened: 1984

Press Row Phone: (618) 650-2188



UT MARTIN

Tom and Kathleen Elam Center/Skyhawk Arena (5,000)

Opened: 1975 (first game 1978)

Press Row Phone: (731) 881-7694



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