



OHIO VALLEY CONFERENCE



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 2020-21 Ohio Valley Conference Football Media Guide was written, designed and edited by Kyle Schwartz, Assistant Commissioner for Strategic Communications. Assistance provided by and a special thanks to the sports information directors at the nine OVC football playing institutions for providing content and assistance.



OHIO VALLEY CONFERENCE



SCHOOL WEBSITES

Ohio Valley Conference.....	www.OVCSports.com
Austin Peay	www.LetsGoPeay.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
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 ..ESPN Clarksville (540 AM/104.1 FM)	
On the Internet.....	www.letsgopeay.com
Talent	Brian Rives, Van Stokes

Eastern Illinois

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

Eastern Kentucky

On the Radio	WCYO-FM 100.7
On the Internet.....	www.wcyofm.com
Talent	Greg Stotemyer, Jim Tirey

Jacksonville State

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

Murray State

On the Radio	WFGE-FM 103.7
On the Internet.....	www.GoRacers.com
Talent	Neal Bradley

Southeast Missouri

On the Radio	ESPN 92.9 FM (KLSC)
On the Internet.....	GoSoutheast.com
Talent	Erik Sean, Rick Wieser

Tennessee State

On the Radio	102.1 FM The Light
On the Internet.....	TSURadio.com
Talent	Greg Pogue, Albert Dawson

Tennessee Tech

On the Radio	98.5 Kiss FM
On the Internet.....	www.TTUSports.com
Talent:	Roger Ealey, Dylan Vazzano

UT Martin

On the Radio	WCMT-FM 101.3/WUTM 90.3
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.

MEDIA INFORMATION

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 PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

The OVC will name an Offensive, Defensive, Special Teams and Newcomer of the Week each Monday afternoon during the regular season. A full report featuring league standings, statistics and weekly matchups will be available on Monday afternoons. The release will be posted on OVCsports.com and emailed to local and national media. If you would like to be added to the distribution list send an email to kschwartz@ovc.org.

OVC COACHES VIDEO CONFERENCE

During the regular season a weekly Zoom video conference featuring the league's eight head coaches will be held every Tuesday morning from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. CT. The first one will take place on Tuesday, February 16. A schedule of what times coaches will appear (each for a 10-minute session) is below. To access the Zoom links, please contact Kyle Schwartz in (615-690-6685 or kschwartz@ovc.org).

- 10:00 - Dean Hood, Murray State
- 10:10 - Tom Matukewicz, Southeast Missouri
- 10:20 - John Grass, Jacksonville State
- 10:40 - Jason Simpson, UT Martin
- 11:00 - Adam Cushing, Eastern Illinois
- 11:10 - Dewayne Alexander, Tennessee Tech
- 11:30 - Rod Reed, Tennessee State
- 11:50 - Scotty Walden, Austin Peay

FCS PLAYOFFS/OVC TIEBREAKER

The participants in the 2020-21 NCAA Football Championship Subdivision (formerly I-AA) Playoffs will be announced on Sunday, April 18. In the event of a tie for the OVC Championship, the following procedures will be used to break all ties and to determine the league's NCAA playoff representative.

2021 OVC Spring Football Tiebreaker Policy

Conference Champion. The Conference football champion shall be determined on a percentage basis of Conference contests won and lost. Co-champions shall be declared in the event two or more teams have the same number of losses and are within one game played of each other at the conclusion of the regular season schedule. To be eligible for the championship, a member must play a Conference-approved schedule.

20.6.14 NCAA Automatic Qualifier. The Conference automatic qualifier to the FCS Football Championship shall be the regular season champion. Since OVC teams are playing an unbalanced Conference schedule, two or more teams will be considered tied for the championship only if they have the same number of losses. Should two or more teams have the same number of Conference losses at the end of the regular-season, a tiebreaker formula, which shall be approved by the league's athletics directors and distributed annually from the Conference office, shall be utilized.

A team must complete a minimum of 4 Conference games (57 percent of the original schedule of 7 games) to be eligible for the regular season championship and Conference's automatic bid to the FCS playoffs. If any game is cancelled due to COVID-19 related matters, the game will be registered as a "no contest." Teams who fail to meet the four-game minimum will be ordered below teams who have met the minimum in the standings based on winning percentage. If a team chooses to opt out at any point of the season, the remainder of their games would be considered forfeits for the purposes of league standings.

TWO-WAY TIES

a) A two-way tie shall exist only if the tied teams have the same number of losses and are within one game played of each other (i.e. 6-1 and 5-1; 5-2 and 4-2; 4-3 and 3-3).

b) Should two teams have the same number of losses, and the two teams played each other during the regular season, the winner of the head-to-head contest shall be the league's postseason representative.

c) If the two tied teams have the same number of losses, but did not play each other during the regular season, the following procedure shall be utilized to break the tie:

1) A comparison of each team's head-to-head record against the team occupying the highest position in the regular-season standings that each team has played. If one team won its game against that team, the winning team shall be declared the representative.

2) Should the procedure outlined in Item 1 fail to break the tie, the process will continue to the next-place team and beyond until the tie is broken.

3) When arriving at another group of tied teams that each team has played, composite records between the tying teams shall be utilized to determine if one of the tied teams has won more games against the group of tied teams.

4) Combined conference winning percentage of all opponents defeated. Example: Team A's four victories came over teams with a combined winning percentage of .388. Team B's four victories came over teams with a combined winning percentage of .433. Team B is awarded the automatic bid.

5) If the procedures described previously fail to break the tie, the representative shall be determined by a coin flip.

MULTIPLE TIES

a) A multiple tie (three or more teams) shall exist only if the tied teams have the same number of losses and are within one game played of each other (i.e. 6-1 and 5-1; 5-2 and 4-2; 4-3 and 3-3).

b) If all of the teams involved in the multiple tie played each other during the regular season, then the composite records among the tied teams shall be compared to break the tie.

c) If the process outlined in Step B reduces the tie to a tie among two teams, the two-team tiebreaker formula shall then be utilized.

d) If not all of the tied teams played each other during the regular season, or if step C does not break or reduce the tie, the following procedure shall be utilized:

1) A comparison of each of the tied teams' head-to-head record against the team occupying the highest position in the regular-season standings that each team has played. If one team won its game against that team, the winning team shall be declared the representative.

2) Should the procedure outlined in Item 1 fail to break the tie, the process will continue to the next-place team and beyond until the tie is broken.

3) When arriving at another group of tied teams that each team has played, composite records between the tying teams shall be utilized to determine if one of the tied teams has won more games against the group of tied teams.

4) Combined conference winning percentage of all opponents defeated. Example: Team A's four victories came over teams with a combined winning percentage of .388. Team B's four victories came over teams with a combined winning percentage of .433. Team B is awarded the automatic bid.

5) If the procedures described previously fail to break the tie, the representative shall be determined by a blind drawing.

OHIO VALLEY CONFERENCE STYLE GUIDE

Official Institution Name "Nickname"	Preferred Athletics Reference	Unacceptable Usages	PMS Colors
Austin Peay State University "Governors" or "Govs"	Austin Peay, APSU	Austin Peay State, AP Lady Governors, Lady Govs	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"	Eastern Kentucky, EKU	--- White	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, MU Lady Eagles	286 Blue, 116 Gold
Murray State University "Racers"	Murray State, MSU	Murray, Lady Racers 'Breds, Thoroughbreds	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.

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OHIO VALLEY CONFERENCE



Now in its 73rd 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 20 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. 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 February 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 halfback 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 (AIAW), 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.

Through the past 72 years, 15 teams have won or shared the league's football title. The list is led by Eastern Kentucky, winner of 21 outright or shared football crowns, which is tied with Massachusetts for the second-most in Football Championship Subdivision history (trailing only Grambling's 25 SWAC titles). Among OVC teams, former member Middle Tennessee is next with 11 titles, followed by Tennessee Tech with 10 and Jacksonville State, Murray State and former member Western Kentucky with eight apiece. Eastern Illinois has seven crowns while Austin Peay, Morehead State, Southeast Missouri, Tennessee State and former members Evansville and East Tennessee State have captured two apiece. UT Martin and former member Youngstown State have one title apiece.

Murray State and Evansville tied for the initial football championship, and the Racers participated in the first-ever bowl game by an OVC team, tying Sul Ross State 21-21 in the 1948 Tangerine Bowl. From 1948 to 1975, OVC teams played in 15 bowl games, winning eight of them. Eastern Kentucky and Western Kentucky were also participants in the NCAA Division II playoffs in the early and mid-1970s prior to the NCAA's reclassification of football programs into Division I-AA. The term "I-AA" lasted until the end of the 2006 season when it was changed to Division I Football Championship Subdivision (FCS).

The first Division I-AA/FCS football playoff was held in 1978 with only four teams, which is the only year through present day that the OVC did not field a playoff representative. In 1979, four of the nation's top teams were invited to the playoffs, and two of them - Eastern Kentucky and Murray State - were from the OVC. Murray dropped its semifinal game to Lehigh, but the Colonels nipped Nevada-Reno in double overtime and claimed the national championship a week later with a 30-7 victory over Lehigh. EKV was coached by former All-America quarterback Roy Kidd, who was in his 16th year at the helm of his alma mater and who skipped the Colonels to a second national title three years later. Following the 2002 season, Kidd retired after 39 years at EKV; upon retirement, he ranked sixth all-time among Division I coaches with 315 victories, earning him a spot in the College Football Hall of Fame. EKV's 21 FCS playoff appearances are the second most all-time (behind only Montana's 24 berths).

In addition to Kidd, other coaching legends in the OVC include Charles "Bubber" Murphy, who coached at Middle Tennessee from 1947-1968, Western Kentucky's Jimmy Feix (1968-83), Wilburn Tucker (1954-67) and Don Wade (1968-82) of Tennessee Tech, Bill Ferguson (1967-77) of Murray State, Guy Penny (1959-67) of Morehead State and Boots Donnelly (1977-78 at Austin Peay; 1979-1998 at Middle Tennessee). Following the 2011 season Eastern Illinois head coach Bob Spoo retired after 25 years at the school (the last 16 as members of the OVC). In his time as an OVC coach he compiled 92 total victories (fifth-most in league history) and 68 OVC wins (fourth-most in league history) and was inducted into the OVC Hall of Fame in 2012. In 2016 former Murray State head coach Frank Beamer (1981-86) was inducted into the OVC Hall of Fame; he introduced his wide tackle six defense to the OVC and compiled a 43-23-2 record with the Racers before leaving for his alma mater Virginia Tech where he won 280 games in 29 seasons.

A sampling of former OVC football stars, some of whom were All-Americans during

their collegiate careers before achieving stardom at the professional ranks, include Jim Youngblood and Larry Schreiber (Tennessee Tech), Phil Simms (Morehead State), Virgil Livers and Dale Lindsey (Western Kentucky), Myron Guyton and Chad Bratzke (Eastern Kentucky), Cortland Finnegan (Samford) and Tony Romo and Jimmy Garoppolo (Eastern Illinois). In 2008, former Tennessee State standout Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie became just the fourth NFL First Round draft pick in OVC history when he was selected 16th overall by the Arizona Cardinals. He would break into the starting lineup halfway through his rookie season and started at cornerback for the Cardinals in Super Bowl XLIII.

The 2007 season marked a return to scholarship football and the OVC for the Austin Peay Governors. Following the 1996 season the Governors dropped scholarship football and competed as both an independent (1997-00, 2006) and as a member of the Pioneer Football League (2001-05).

The 2007 season also brought new vernacular to the Ohio Valley Conference and the division formerly known as I-AA. Beginning with the 2006 National Championship game the term I-AA was changed to NCAA Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) in a decision by the Division I Board of Directors. The new label was chosen to communicate in a positive and clear manner the unique differences between Division I football categories (chiefly, the post-season opportunity) while still defining them within the Division I experience. The FCS includes programs that compete in an effort to participate in the NCAA championship postseason structure (one of 90 NCAA national championships) as opposed to the Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS) which competes in an effort to participate in the postseason bowl system (the 40 NCAA-licensed events which includes the College Football Playoff).

In 2010 Southeast Missouri State, picked to finish seventh in the preseason poll, compiled a 7-1 Conference record on the way to its first OVC Championship since joining the league in 1991. Overall the Redhawks were 9-2 during the regular season and earned a berth in the FCS Playoffs, its first playoff berth at any level in the program's 104-year history. Southeast would lose to eventual national champion Eastern Washington in the second round of the playoffs. Head coach Tony Samuel capped the year by winning the Sports Network's Eddie Robinson Award, given to the National Coach of the Year. Samuel was the second OVC coach to win the award (joining Murray State's Houston Nutt who won the award in 1995).

In 2012 Eastern Illinois became just the fourth football team in OVC history to go from worst-to-first in winning the OVC Championship. The Panthers were led by head coach Dino Babers who became just the fourth first-year head coach to win an OVC Championship (joining Boots Donnelly in 1977, Jason Simpson in 2006 and Dean Hood in 2008 - Jacksonville State head coach John Grass would become the fifth coach to achieve that feat in 2014). During the year Eastern Illinois junior wide receiver Erik Lora shattered the FCS single-season receptions record, hauling in 136 passes in 12 games; that mark was 13 more than the previous NCAA record and 44 more than the previous OVC mark.

In 2013 Eastern Illinois repeated as OVC Champions behind Walter Payton Award winner Jimmy Garoppolo. The quarterback became just the second OVC player to earn the National Player of the Year Award, joining former EIU signal caller Tony Romo (2002). Garoppolo passed for 5,050 yards (second most in NCAA single-season history) and 53 touchdowns (fourth in NCAA history) in leading the Panthers to a 12-2 record and berth to the quarterfinals of the FCS Playoffs.

Garoppolo was drafted by the New England Patriots in the second round of the 2014 NFL Draft, becoming just the fifth OVC player selected in that round and just the fifth OVC quarterback ever selected (and first since 1998). Garoppolo was a part of Patriots teams that won Super Bowls in 2015 and 2017. In 2020 Garoppolo became just the eighth quarterback who played in the FCS (which began in 1978), to start a Super Bowl, taking the snaps for the San Francisco 49ers in Super Bowl LIV against the Kansas City Chiefs. The Chiefs would win, preventing Garoppolo from becoming only the fourth FCS quarterback to start and win a Super Bowl.

The 2013 season saw the OVC snap a 19-game playoff losing streak dating back to the 2000 season. Tennessee State shutout Butler (marking the first OVC road playoff victory since 1986) to snap the streak while later that day Jacksonville State smashed Samford in the first round. A week later Eastern Illinois beat Tennessee State while Jacksonville State won at McNeese State to each advance to the quarterfinals; that marked the first time the OVC put two teams in the quarterfinals in the same season since 1991. Overall the four total playoff wins in the same season established a new OVC record.

In 2015 Jacksonville State ascended to No. 1 in both major Top 25 polls, becoming the first OVC team to be ranked No. 1 since the 1999 season. The Gamecocks would go on to complete its second-straight 8-0 Conference mark and won three playoff games to become the first OVC team to advance to the Division I National Championship Game since 1982 (Eastern Kentucky). JSU lost to North Dakota State in the title game but finished the year 13-2 overall and ranked No. 2 in the final Top 25 polls. Head coach John Grass became the first OVC coach honored as the AFCA National Coach of the Year while quarterback Eli Jenkins was named the FCS ADA National Quarterback of the Year, finishing the year with 2,788 passing and 1,161 rushing yards (one of just three Division I quarterbacks - FBS or FCS - to achieve those numbers during the year).

Jenkins would conclude his career in 2016 with 3,796 rushing yards, the seventh-most ever by a FCS quarterback. Jenkins, who was named OVC Male Athlete of the Year in back-to-back seasons, capped his career with 11,448 yards of total offense, second-most in OVC history (behind only Garoppolo).

In 2017, Jacksonville State senior defensive end Darius Jackson became the first OVC player to win the Buck Buchanan Award, given to the FCS National Defensive Player of the Year. Jackson tallied 51 tackles, 19.0 tackles-for-loss, 7.0 sacks, 19 quarterback

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)



OHIO VALLEY CONFERENCE



hurries, 3 forced fumbles and 2 fumbles recoveries in 11 regular season games

2017 also saw the third OVC coach named the winner of the Eddie Robinson Award as the FCS National Coach of the Year. The honor went to Austin Peay second-year coach Will Healy who orchestrated a tremendous turnaround for the Govs program. After going 0-11 during his initial season and starting 2017 with back-to-back losses to FBS opponents, the team's losing streak had reached 29 games and overall the team had won just one of its previous 48 games overall. But a win during week three catapulted the team to an 8-4 record and 7-1 OVC record and second-place league finish. The eight wins matched the school record, while the seven Conference wins established a new school record. Along the way the team snapped a 21-game OVC losing streak and a 45-game road losing streak and finished the year with four road victories, which was more than the program won in the previous nine years combined.

The OVC made it back-to-back Buck Buchanan Award winners in 2018, as Southeast Missouri junior linebacker Zach Hall took home the prestigious award. He finished the season with 168 tackles, the most of any FCS player and a new Southeast Missouri single-season record, while leading his team to just its second-ever playoff appearance.

In 2019, Austin Peay won a school record 11 games, claimed its first OVC Championship since 1977 and appeared in its first-ever FCS Playoffs, advancing to the quarterfinals. The Govs would finish the year ranked No. 8 in the national polls.

Over its 72 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 OVC has also produced several Olympic athletes, including Murray State's Morgan Hicks, who was a member of the 2004 United States Olympic Rifle Team and Morehead State's Brian Shimer who competed in five Winter Olympics in bobsled (winning a bronze medal in 2002) and coached the 2010 United States bobsled team to its first gold medal since 1948. Former Morehead State football and Eastern Kentucky track and field athlete Dallas Robinson competed with the U.S. bobsled team during the 2014 Sochi Winter Olympics. In addition, some of the greatest players in professional sports were educated at OVC institutions. The list includes former greats such as football's Phil Simms (Morehead State) and Tony Romo (Eastern Illinois), basketball's Clem Haskins (Western Kentucky) and Bubba Wells (Austin Peay) and two-sport star Steve Hamilton (Morehead State) to present-day standouts like basketball players Kenneth Faried (Morehead State) and Robert Covington (Tennessee State), football player Jimmy Garoppolo (Eastern Illinois) and baseball player Shawn Kelley (Austin Peay). Hamilton is the only athlete to ever play in the NCAA Basketball Championship, a Major League Baseball World Series (New York Yankees) and an NBA Championship Series (Los Angeles Lakers).

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 292 student-athletes honored with the award (including 47 over the past five years).

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.

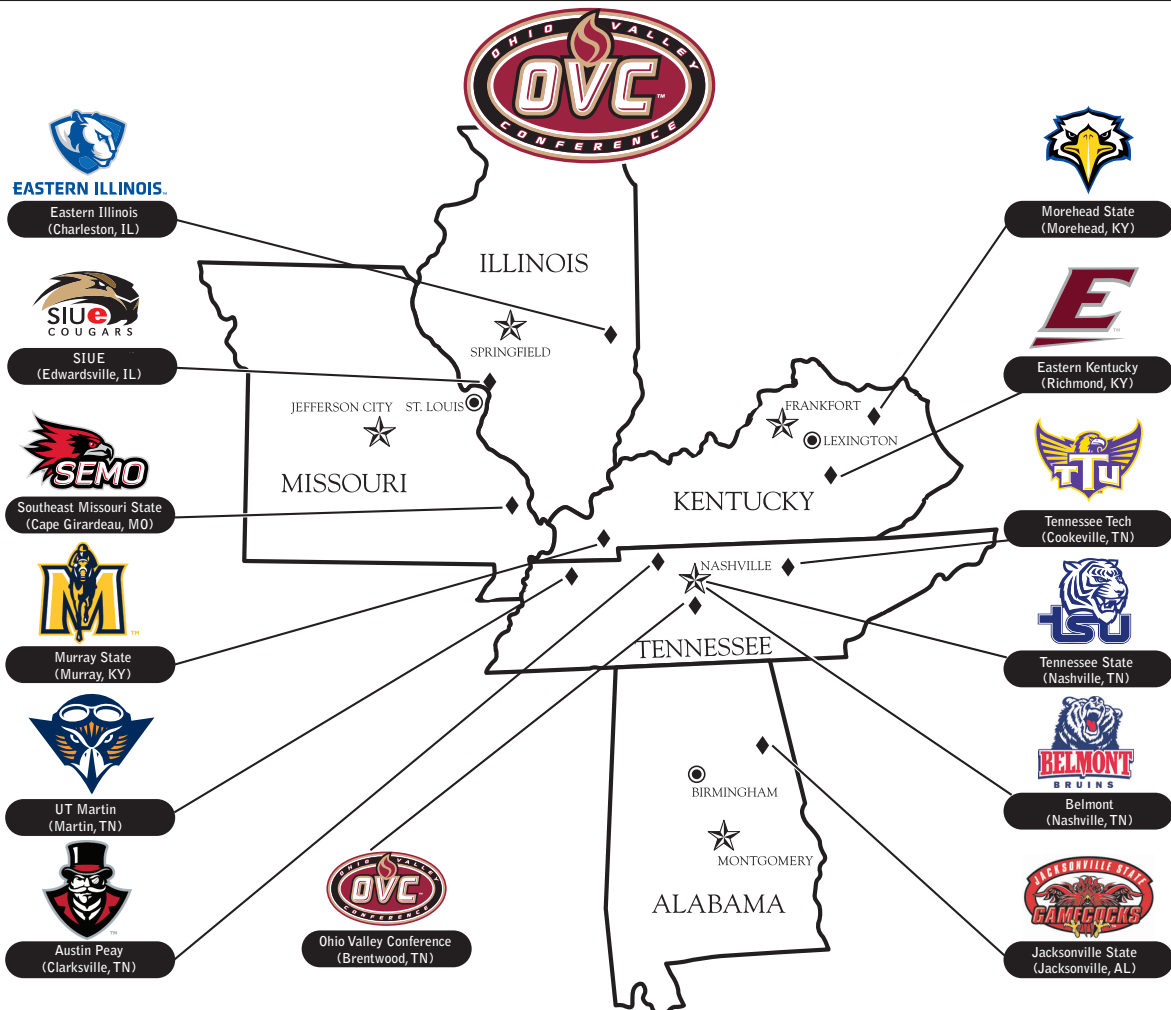
Additionally, the OVC annually presents the Steve Hamilton Sportsmanship Award, in honor of the former Morehead State student-athlete, coach and athletics director, to a junior or senior student-athlete with significant athletic contributions who best exemplifies the characteristics of sportsmanship 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, volleyball and beach 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), UT 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
2013-14	J.J. Mann (basketball), Belmont
2014-15	Alison Alcott (soccer), Belmont
2015-16	Dalton Screws (football), Jacksonville State
2016-17	Jessica Twaddle (softball), Murray State
2017-18	Sally McCabe (basketball), Belmont
2018-19	Josh Pearson (football), Jacksonville State

Football Team Sportsmanship Award Winners

2005-06	Samford University
2006-07	Eastern Illinois University
2007-08	Austin Peay State University
2008-09	Austin Peay State University
2009-10	Eastern Illinois University
2010-11	Southeast Missouri State University
2011-12	Austin Peay State University
2012-13	Southeast Missouri State University
2013-14	Eastern Kentucky University
2014-15	Eastern Kentucky University
2015-16	Tennessee Technological University
2016-17	Murray State University
2017-18	Murray State University
2018-19	Tennessee Technological University
2019-20	Tennessee Technological University

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 2020, the Hall of Fame now has 89 members.

Dr. Joe Morgan, APSU (1977)
 Mr. Charles Hughes, EKU (1977)
 Dr. Robert Martin, EKU (1977)
 Dr. Adron Doran, MOR (1977)
 Mr. Roy Stewart, MUR (1977)
 Dr. W.E. Deryberry, TTU (1977)
 Mr. Hooper Eblen, TTU (1997)
 Dr. Kelly Thompson, WKU (1977)
 Mr. Ed Diddle, Sr., WKU (1977)
 Mr. L.T. Smith, WKU (1977)
 Dr. Dave Aaron, APSU (1978)
 Mr. Bob Laughlin, MOR (1978)
 Mr. Ted Hornback, WKU (1978)
 Dr. Quill E. Cope, MTSU (1978)
 Mr. J.D. Rayburn, MUR (1979)
 Mr. Nick Denes, WKU (1979)
 Mr. Raymond H. Brown, TTU (1980)
 Dr. Dero G. Downing, WKU (1980)
 Mr. P.V. Overall, TTU (1981)
 Mr. Arthur L. Guepe, OVC (1982)
 Mr. Charles M. Murphy, MTSU (1982)
 Mr. Malcolm P. Quillen, TTU (1984)
 Mr. Ellis T. Johnson, MOR (1985)

Mr. John "Sonny" Allen, MOR (1987)
 Mr. Wilburn Tucker, TTU (1987)
 Mr. Johnny Reagan, MUR (1988)
 Dr. George Fisher, APSU (1988)
 Mr. John Oldham, WKU / TTU (1989)
 Mr. Jimmy Earle, MTSU (1989)
 Dr. Sam Ingram, MTSU (1990)
 Mr. Bennie Purcell, MUR (1990)
 Mr. Donald G. Combs, EKU (1991)
 Mr. Steve Hamilton, MOR (1991)
 Mr. James E. Delany, OVC (1992)
 Mr. E.K. Patty, MTSU (1993)
 Ms. Marynell Meadors, TTU (1993)
 Dr. Edward S. Temple, TSU (1995)
 Mr. John Ogles, APSU (1996)
 Dr. Guy Penny, MOR (1996)
 Dr. Arliss Roaden, TTU (1996)
 Mr. John Stanford, MTSU (1997)
 Dr. Kala Stroup, MUR / SEMO (1997)
 Dr. Margaret N. Perry, UTM (1998)
 Dr. Leon Bibb, APSU (1999)
 Mr. Cal Luther, MUR / UTM (2000)
 Mr. R.L. "Buddy" Patey, OVC (2000)

Dr. Nolan Fowler, MOR / TTU (2001)
 Dr. Angelo Volpe, TTU (2001)
 Mr. Jim Ward, EKU (2002)
 Mr. Roy Kidd, EKU (2003)
 Dr. Bobby Barton, EKU (2004)
 Mr. Wayne Martin, MOR (2004)
 Mr. Bill Cornell, MUR (2005)
 Dr. David Larimore, TTU (2005)
 Mr. Karl Park, EKU (2005)
 Dr. Geri Polvino, EKU (2005)
 Mr. Dan Beebe, OVC (2006)
 Mr. Paul McBrayer, EKU (2006)
 Mr. Don Wade, TTU (2006)
 Dr. Thurston Banks, TTU (2007)
 Mr. Steve Newton, MUR (2007)
 Mr. Bill Worrell, TTU (2007)
 Mr. Elvis Green, MUR (2008)
 Mr. Joey Haines, SEMO/AP (2009)
 Mr. Larry Inman, EKU/MTSU (2009)
 Mr. Chuck Kimmel, APSU (2010)
 Mr. David Mays, TTU (2010)
 Mr. Ron English, OVC (2011)
 Mr. Bobby Nichols, TTU (2011)

Mr. Bob Spoo, EIU (2012)
 Dr. Martha Mullins, EKU (2013)
 Dr. Robert "Bob" Bell, TTU (2014)
 Margaret Simmons, MUR (2014)
 Dr. Rex Chaney, MOR (2015)
 Jim Skidmore, JSU (2015)
 Dr. Doug Whitlock, EKU (2015)
 Frank Beamer, MUR (2016)
 Dr. Gaines Hunt, APSU (2016)
 Dr. William Meehan, JSU (2016)
 Dr. Sherry Hoppe, OVC (2017)
 Mr. Mike Strickland, BEL/MUR (2017)
 Mr. Dave Loos, APSU (2018)
 Dr. Wayne Andrews, MOR (2018)
 Dr. Kenneth W. Dobbins, SEMO (2019)
 Mr. Rick Erdmann, EKU (2019)
 Ms. Cheryl Holt, APSU (2019)
 Mr. Tom Akers, EIU (2020)
 Mr. Rick Byrd, BEL (2020)
 Mr. Rob Schabert, TTU (2020)

Beth DeBauche - Commissioner



Elizabeth (Beth) DeBauche was named commissioner of the Ohio Valley Conference on July 29, 2009, becoming the seventh full-time commissioner in the history of the OVC.

As commissioner, she answers to each of the 12 OVC schools' presidents and works with them to set the strategic direction of the conference.

DeBauche (pronounced De-Bush), a Green Bay, Wisconsin native, received her Bachelor of Arts degree in history and government from Saint Mary's College in Indiana, and her master's degree in communications from Notre Dame. She went on to complete her juris doctorate from the Notre Dame School of Law.

After a brief stint in the field of law, DeBauche turned her attention to the world of college athletics. She got her start at Vanderbilt University, where she was the assistant athletic director for compliance from August 1994 to November 1996. From there, she worked as an assistant and later associate commissioner for the Southeastern Conference in Birmingham, Alabama, from November 1996 through August 2002.

In 2002, she relocated to Indianapolis to work in the home office of the NCAA, where she was responsible for coordinating Division I initiatives through the NCAA governance structure, as well as helping to manage the Division I agenda. She was also a liaison to governance representatives, external constituent groups and NCAA staff regarding legislative and governance activities.

After seven years with the NCAA, she made her way back to the South and took the commissioner position for the OVC in 2009.

The conference has seen several changes under DeBauche's leadership, including expanding the conference to 12 member institutions, the implementation of a revised governance structure to enhance efficiencies and collaboration and the launch of a branding initiative and the league's first tagline: "Inspiring Excellence Since 1948." She also negotiated the largest national media contract in league history and played a key role in upgrading the OVC Digital Network to HD video and expanding viewership.

During DeBauche's time with the OVC, student-athletes have achieved high levels of success, not only on the field, but also in the classroom. The league has consistently seen a record number of honorees on the OVC Medal of Honor and OVC Commissioner's Honor Roll. In order to help students succeed, DeBauche sponsors comprehensive leadership programming for OVC student-athletes and coaches through on-campus summits.

DeBauche serves on the NCAA Committee on Academics, the National Letter of Intent (NLI) Appeals Committee and is President of the Collegiate Commissioner's Association (CCA). She has served on the Committee on Institutional Performance, the Division I Strategic Vision and Planning Committee and the Division I Management Council. She served as the FCS representative to the "Coalition To Protect the Student-Athlete Experience" communications steering committee and serves as the FCS liaison to the FCS AD's Association.

She is a board member with the Nashville Sports Council, the Nashville YWCA and the Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee, the International Women's Forum of Tennessee, and a graduate of Leadership Nashville. She is also in the 2019-20 Class of Leadership Tennessee.



Kate Barnett - Asst. Commissioner/Championships & Compliance



Barnett began her role as Assistant Commissioner for Championships and Compliance in September 2016.

Barnett joined the OVC after serving as the Director of Championships at the Southern Conference for two years (2014-16). There she was directly responsible for the coordination of 13 Southern Conference championships. In her role she served as the liaison for several sports, facilitated the championship bid process and collaborated with other staff members on the marketing, promotions and sponsorships fulfillment for each championship.

Prior to joining the Southern Conference Barnett was an intern for the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics (NACDA) during the 2013-14 academic year.

There she assisted with the management of the Division 2 Athletics Directors Association (D2 ADA), the Minority Opportunities Athletic Association (MOAA) and the National Association of Collegiate Marketing Administrators (NACMA).

From August 2011 to May 2013 Barnett served as a graduate assistant in game operations at Belmont, where she helped develop game management procedures and assisted with arena and field setup for each athletic contest. She also served as the Bruins' volleyball operations intern from 2011-12, coordinating team travel, meals and bus contracts. She earned her Master's of Sports Administration from Belmont in May 2013.

Prior to her arrival at Belmont, Barnett was a recipient of the NCAA Division III Ethnic Minority and Women's Internship Grant at Ripon College. There, she held a variety of roles, including assisting with game management, NCAA Division III compliance, marketing, hosting the Men's Soccer and Softball Midwest Conference Championships and sport-specific budgets. She also served as a co-advisor for the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) and was the assistant volleyball coach.

Barnett also served internships with the Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame and with the Mahoning Valley Scrappers, the Class "A" affiliate of the Cleveland Indians.

Barnett graduated from Bluffton University with a bachelor's degree in sport management and business administration in May 2009. There she was a volleyball student-athlete and member of the SAAC.

Stephanie Castera - Asst. Commissioner/Institutional Services



Castera was named Assistant Commissioner for Institutional Services on November 22, 2013 and began her duties with the OVC in January 2014. In February 2015 she added the role of Senior Woman Administrator (SWA).

Castera manages NCAA Division I governance, legislative and policy matters while overseeing legislative and compliance issues on behalf of the OVC. She serves as a liaison to the OVC Senior Compliance Administrators, Faculty Athletic Representatives (FAR's), Senior Woman Administrators (SWA's), Academic Services Administrators and various groups within the OVC governance structure.

Castera also manages the NCAA Student Assistance Fund Program on behalf of OVC

membership, coordinates the nomination and selection process for OVC Academic Awards and serves as the assistant tournament manager for the OVC Men's and Women's Basketball Championship, a role she also held for the 2018 NCAA Men's Basketball 1st and 2nd Rounds which the OVC hosted in Nashville. She previously oversaw the OVC Volleyball Championship and Track & Field Championships.

Castera currently serves on the American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) Board of Directors as well as the NCAA Women's Volleyball Rules Committee.

Castera joined the OVC staff after spending six-plus years working at the NCAA in several different roles. She started as an intern in the NCAA Eligibility Center in June 2007 and was in that role for a year before being hired as a coordinator in Academic and Membership Affairs. After nine months in the role as coordinator, Castera was promoted to assistant director, a position she held until joining the OVC staff.

In her role at the NCAA she was a member of the Division I legislation team where she drafted proposals, editorial revisions and question and answer documents and assisted in NCAA Manual production. Castera was also a liaison to the NCAA Division I Amateurism Cabinet, the Amateurism Fact-Finding Committee and the Division I National Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC), as she provided legislative, interpretive and membership expertise to each group.

She was also an internal liaison to the NCAA Eligibility Center's Amateurism Certification Team, a member of the Interpretation Leadership Development Team, a Rules Working Group member and the primary liaison to the American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA). Castera also helped evaluate Division I APR Improvement Plans as well as analyzing and processing Division I penalty waivers. Castera has extensive experience in academic issues, including initial-

eligibility issues, and was a regular presenter at NCAA regional rules seminars.

Castera received her undergraduate degree in sport administration from Ball State University in June 2006. At Ball State she was a student-athlete on the volleyball team. Following graduation she served a summer internship with the AVP Pro Beach Volleyball Tour.

Castera received her Master's degree in sports administration higher education from Ball State in December 2007. During that time she served as a graduate assistant, teaching physical education/wellness classes in the Ball State Physical Education, Sport and Exercise Science Department.

A native of Remsen, Iowa, Castera and her husband Luis currently reside in Nashville with their two children, Luis and Cruz.

Kyle Schwartz - Asst. Commissioner/Strategic Communications



Kyle Schwartz joined the OVC as Assistant Commissioner for Media Relations in November 2006. In August 2016 his title changed to Assistant Commissioner for Strategic Communications to better reflect the changing job responsibilities associated with collegiate athletics.

He is in charge of publicity efforts for the Conference and is the primary media relations contact for football, men's basketball, baseball, men's and women's cross country and men's and women's golf. He 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 league's Honors Brunch and Hall of Fame and the annual Football and Basketball Media Days. Schwartz also oversees the OVC's official website and social media platforms as well as the Conference's OVC Extra blog and its Campus Correspondent's program. Beginning in 2015 he took over as the staff liaison to the men's and women's golf coaches groups and serves as tournament director for the OVC Men's & Women's Golf Championships.

In 2014 Schwartz served as the Local Media Coordinator for the 2014 Women's Basketball Final Four which was held at Bridgestone Arena in Nashville. The year prior he had served on the Media Coordination Committee for the Women's Basketball Final Four in New Orleans. In 2012 and 2018 he served as the Media Coordinator for the NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Championship First/Second Rounds that the OVC hosted at Bridgestone Arena in Nashville.

Schwartz served as a timeout coordinator for the 2009-13 and 2015-19 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournaments and worked with the ConSIDA group at the Final Fours in each of those years.

Schwartz is active with the promotion of the Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) and serves as a voter in the FCS Top 25 poll in addition to also being a pollster in the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association (NCBWA) Top 30 poll.

Schwartz came to the OVC after spending four and a half years at the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley, Colorado. 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 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, Kentucky, is a member of the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA), the United States Basketball Writer's Association (USBWA), the Football Writers Association of America (FWAA) and the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association (NCBWA). He also serves on the NCAA Media Coordination/Statistics Advisory Group. For 11 years (June 2003-2014) he was a member of CoSIDA's Academic All-American committee, serving as a district coordinator for football and the men's at-large teams for the university division.

Schwartz and his wife, Angella, were married in June 2004. They welcomed their first child, Harrison Alexander, in August 2014.

Travis Tellitocci - Asst. Commissioner for Football, Basketball, Officiating



Travis Tellitocci joined the Ohio Valley Conference as Assistant Commissioner for Football, Basketball and Officiating in September 2016.

Tellitocci (pronounced Tella-toss-see) serves the primary staff liaison to the head football, men's and women's basketball and baseball coaches. He is also the Tournament Manager for the OVC men's and women's basketball championships and baseball championship. Tellitocci served as the Tournament Manager for the 2018 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament First and Second Round games at Bridgestone Arena in Nashville, Tennessee.

Tellitocci joined the OVC staff after serving as Deputy Athletics Director at Marist College

in Poughkeepsie, New York. He worked with all 23 Division I sports at Marist and was responsible for the oversight of the athletics department's business operations, marketing, media relations, broadcasting, licensing, ticketing, club sports, intramurals and recreational activities. Tellitocci joined the Marist staff as Assistant Athletics Director for External Affairs in 2006, was promoted to Associate Athletics Director for Internal Affairs in 2008, became the Senior Associate Athletics Director for Internal Affairs in 2013 and was promoted to Deputy Athletics Director in 2016.

During his time at Marist, Tellitocci played an integral role in the design and management of numerous capital projects, including a multi-sport stadium, basketball office and locker room addition and arena renovation. He also restructured the Red Fox Club, the department's fundraising arm, which led to the highest revenue in its 35-year history. Tellitocci oversaw a significant digital media implementation, which included the creation of the Red Fox Network. He served as the executive producer and director for the first college-produced live HD broadcast on ESPN3 and directed the 2016 Bernie Sander's Presidential campaign event hosted at McCann Arena.

Tellitocci also led a successful redesign of the athletic spirit marks and development of brand management guidelines for Marist College. As part of the rebranding effort, he negotiated and obtained a contract with Nike to serve as the athletics department's exclusive outfitter. The process led to the highest licensing revenue in the College's history. Tellitocci was instrumental in helping Marist record the first sellout in its women's basketball history and was nationally recognized by the NCAA as the 2010-11 overall champion of the "Pack the House" women's basketball marketing initiative from 179 participating institutions.

Tellitocci was recognized as a Forty Under 40 honoree by the Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce in 2014 as one of the top 40 people under the age of 40 helping to shape the future of the Hudson River Valley.

Before joining the Marist athletics department, Tellitocci worked as Associate Producer for Scoreboard and Entertainment for the New York Mets. In that role, he directed pre-game presentation on the field at Shea Stadium for all Mets home games. Tellitocci acquired and supervised the pre-game entertainment, National Anthem singers, color guard, military flyovers and first pitch participants in addition to creating and executing game-day scripts and timelines. He also was responsible for the content and operation of Shea Stadium's 11 LED video displays.

Tellitocci earned his bachelor's degree in communication with a minor in writing from Marist in 2004. He completed his Master's degree in integrated marketing and communication at Marist in 2014.

A Benwood, West Virginia, native, Tellitocci and his wife Bobbi Sue are the parents of two sons, Tyler and Hudson, and reside in Nashville, Tennessee.

Lauren Berst - Director of Administration



Lauren Berst joined the OVC staff in the fall of 2015 moving to Nashville after living in New York for 15 years.

When in New York, Berst worked primarily as an actor on stage and on camera and voiced many commercials for television and radio. Berst has extensive experience as an office manager, and worked for years as a personal and professional organizer. She is also a wine nerd, passing her Level 2 test with merit from the Wine and Spirits Education Trust.

Berst grew up around college athletics – her father worked at the NCAA for 43 years and her brother builds sports arenas.

A native of Kansas City, Berst got a B.F.A. in acting from the University of Evansville and an M.F.A. in acting from the National Theatre Conservatory.

Heather Brown - Director of Communications



Heather Brown joined the Ohio Valley Conference as an intern in 2003-04 and after the completion her 10-month internship, joined the staff full-time, serving as the Assistant Director for Media Relations until her promotion of Director of Media Relations in December 2006. In August 2016 her title changed to Director of Communications to better reflect the changing job responsibilities associated with collegiate athletics.

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.

She also serves at the Media Coordinator for the OVC Softball Championship which was held at a neutral site (Oxford, Alabama) for the first time in 2016. She also serves as the Assistant Media Coordinator for the OVC's Basketball and Baseball Championships, including serving as the Baseball Championships official photographer. Brown is also the editor of the OVC Handbook which is published annually.

In 2014, she served as the Local Media Coordinator for the 2014 Division I NCAA Women's Final Four which was held at Bridgestone Arena in Nashville. Along with that role she has served on the Legacy Committee for the event including working with Junior Journalism and Women's Portrayal in the Media.

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 and 2018 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.

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

In 2013, she helped plan the OVC's Title IX Celebration Luncheon, an event that capped off a year-long celebration of the 40th Anniversary of Title IX. Each of the OVC's 12-member institutions identified a pioneer in women's athletics from their school to be honored during the year and celebrated at a home athletic event on their campus as well as the luncheon.

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) and the United States Basketball Writers Association (USBWA).

Jon Kuka - General Manager, OVC Sports Properties



Jon Kuka joined the Ohio Valley Conference staff in April 2010 as the General Manager for OVC IMG Sports Marketing. Kuka has over 15 years in sales and sports marketing experience.

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.

Bryce Robinson - Director of Digital Media



Bryce Robinson joined the OVC staff full-time in June 2014 as the Director of Digital Media after serving as an intern for the 2013-14 school year.

In his role Robinson is a liaison for OVC member institutions for matters pertaining to the OVC Digital Network as well as the OVC Digital Network Assessment and Accountability Group. He also produces video content from OVC Championships in addition to producing ancillary content and video spots for the Conference.

In 2013-14 Robinson served as the leagues broadcasting and multimedia production intern. In that role he had oversight in producing, directing and filming six OVC

Championships during the year, including baseball, men's and women's basketball, soccer, softball and volleyball. Each of those championships were broadcast on the OVC Digital Network while the volleyball and women's basketball championships were also streamed on ESPN3. In addition Robinson assisted in editing and developing multiple video series for OVC platforms including "OVC Road Trip" and "What Inspires You" in addition to producing highlights of championship events.

Robinson, a native of Berea, Kentucky, obtained his bachelor's degree in telecommunications from the University of Kentucky in 2010. He completed his master's degree in sport administration from Belmont in May 2014.

At Belmont Robinson served as a graduate assistant where he worked directly with Belmont's Director of Broadcasting and Media Relations as the Video Services Director, producing and directing OVC Digital Network broadcasts for home sporting events as well as other ancillary content and video spots.

Jonathan Owens - Asst. Director Championships/Administration



Jonathan Owens joined the OVC staff on a full-time basis in September 2016 as Assistant Director of Championships and Administration.

Owens served as a Digital Production intern for the OVC in 2014-15 school year in addition to helping with OVC Digital Network broadcasts during the 2015-16 year. In his role he assisted with all aspects of OVC Digital Network broadcasts during OVC Championships including as a producer. He also captured and edited footage for OVC communications platforms.

Since August 2012 Owens worked with the Tennessee State sports production department serving as the lead video producer. In

his role in video production he was in charge of producing broadcasts for the OVC Digital Network in addition to assisting with the teaching and development of sports production students.

Owens has assisted with numerous OVC championship events over the past two years and was a part of the local organizing staff for the 2014 NCAA Division I Women's Final Four which was hosted by the OVC in Nashville.

Owens, a Georgia native, earned his bachelor's degree in communications (with an emphasis in integrated marketing) and his Master's degree in sports administration from Tennessee State University.

While at TSU Owens was the captain of the Tigers cross country team his junior and senior years. He was also selected as a recipient of the Arthur Ashe student-athlete award (2011) and also Male Student-Athlete of the Year (2013).

Matt Young - Coordinator of Football Officiating



Matt Young was named Ohio Valley Conference Coordinator of Football Officiating on March 23, 2017.

Young is in charge of recruiting, training and developing the OVC football officials, as well as the game selection and assignment and evaluation of those officials and oversight of an officials' observation program. In 2017, Young oversaw the successful implementation of instant replay in the OVC and the expansion of the staff to include instant replay officials, communicators, and technicians.

Young served as an on-field Ohio Valley Conference official from 2006-16, beginning as a supplemental referee in 2006, and becoming a staff referee in 2007. Over his final two years,

he served as an OVC position chief. Young worked seven FCS Playoff games, including the 2009 National Championship game between Montana and Villanova played in Chattanooga. In 2011 he was awarded the OVC's Haley-Heriges Award for Outstanding Officiating. He has also served as President of the OVC Football Officials' Association.

Young has also served as a supplemental referee for the Sun Belt Conference (2011-13), referee in the Mid-South Conference (2004-06), the Arena Football League 2 (2009) and the National Indoor Football League (2006-07). He was named Kentucky High School Athletic Association (KHSAA) Official of the Year in 2006.

In 2017 Young accepted a position on the Board of Directors for the Blanton Collier Sportsmanship Group. He is also the Coordinator of High School Football Officials for the Northern Kentucky Officials Association of the KHSAA as well as the Coordinator of High School Basketball Officials for the 9th Region Basketball Officials Association of the KHSAA. He has been the Director of Training and Development for the Northern Kentucky Officials Association since 2003 and has been an evaluator for the KHSAA for the state football championships and the Girls Sweet 16 Basketball Tournament.

Young received his bachelor's degree from Wittenberg University in 1994. He received his Masters of Divinity degree and is currently a candidate for the Doctor of Ministry degree from Trinity Lutheran Seminary. He currently serves as Rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Newport, Kentucky. Young also serves as chaplain for the Newport Fire/EMS Department and the Newport Police Department.

Tony Backert - Coordinator of Football Instant Replay



Tony Backert originally joined the Ohio Valley Conference in 1999 as an on field football official. He worked as a deep wing and referee from 1999 to 2006, when he joined the Sun Belt conference as a Referee and Instant Replay Official.

In 2016, when Instant Replay was being implemented for football in the OVC, Backert rejoined the conference as the Coordinator of Instant Replay. His role is to hire and train the replay staff and coordinate and act in a liaison capacity with the schools.

Not only has he officiated football, but he also was a high school basketball official and college baseball Umpire. Over his 45-year football career, Tony has had the honor of

working multiple NAIA and FCS playoff games and has worked four bowl games at the FBS level.

He has a degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Louisville and currently works with Milwaukee based RW Baird, as a Senior Vice President and Charter Wealth Advisor. He is recognized in his industry as an instrumental voice in the 401k and qualified plan space and has received the Financial Times Top Financial Advisor Award for the past 5 years.

A Louisville native, Backert and his wife Sherrie are parents to two children and currently have three grandchildren.



OHIO VALLEY CONFERENCE



FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP SUBDIVISION (FCS) CONFERENCE ALIGNMENT

BIG SKY (13)

Cal Poly
Eastern Washington
Idaho
Idaho State
Montana
Montana State
Northern Arizona
Northern Colorado
Portland State
Sacramento State
Southern Utah
UC Davis
Weber State

BIG SOUTH (7)

Campbell
Charleston Southern
Gardner-Webb
Hampton
Kennesaw State
Monmouth
North Alabama

CAA FOOTBALL (12)

Albany
Delaware
Elon
James Madison
Maine
New Hampshire
Rhode Island
Richmond
Stony Brook
Towson
Villanova
William & Mary

IVY (8)

Brown
Columbia
Cornell
Dartmouth
Harvard
Penn
Princeton
Yale

MID-EASTERN (9)

Bethune-Cookman
Delaware State
Florida A&M
Howard **
Morgan State
Norfolk State
North Carolina A&T
North Carolina Central
South Carolina State

MISSOURI VALLEY FOOTBALL (11)

Illinois State
Indiana State
Missouri State
North Dakota
North Dakota State
UNI
South Dakota
South Dakota State
Southern Illinois
Western Illinois
Youngstown State

NORTHEAST (8)

Bryant
Central Connecticut State
Duquesne
LIU
Merrimack
Sacred Heart
St. Francis (Pa.)
Wagner

OHIO VALLEY (9)

Austin Peay
Eastern Illinois
Eastern Kentucky
Jacksonville State
Murray State
Southeast Missouri
Tennessee State
Tennessee Tech
UT Martin

PATRIOT (7)

Bucknell
Colgate
Fordham
Georgetown
Holy Cross
Lafayette
Leigh

PIONEER (9)

Butler
Davidson
Dayton
Drake
Marist
Morehead State
San Diego
Stetson
Valparaiso

SOUTHERN (9)

Chatanooga
Citadel
East Tennessee State
Furman
Mercer
Samford
VMI
Western Carolina
Wofford

SOUTHLAND (11)

Abilene Christian
Central Arkansas
Houston Baptist
Incarnate Word
Lamar
McNeese **
Nicholls
Northwestern State
Sam Houston State
Southeastern Louisiana
Stephen F. Austin **

SOUTHWESTERN (10)

East

Alabama A&M
Alabama State
Alcorn State
Jackson State
Mississippi Valley State

West

Arkansas-Pine Bluff
Grambling State
Prairie View A&M **
Southern
Texas Southern

INDEPENDENT

Dixie State #
Presbyterian College
Robert Morris
Tarleton State #

- Reclassifying to FCS

**Not eligible for postseason play



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Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference • Missouri Valley Football Conference
Northeast Conference • Ohio Valley Conference • Patriot League
Pioneer Football League • Southern Conference • Southland Conference
Southwestern Athletic Conference

9:41



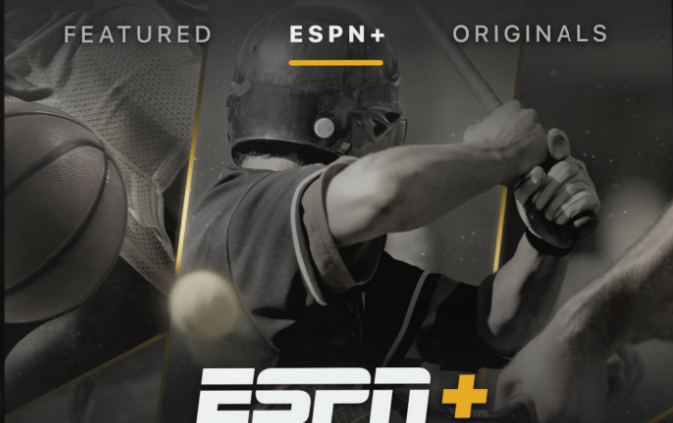
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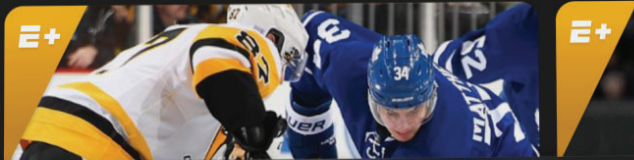
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SOUTHEAST MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY
FOOTBALL 2019



AUSTIN PEAY STATE UNIVERSITY
FOOTBALL 2019

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PRESEASON ALL-OVC HONORS

Predicted Order of Finish

1. Austin Peay (16 first-place votes)	128
2. Jacksonville State	102
3. UT Martin (1)	97
4. Southeast Missouri (1)	90
5. Eastern Kentucky	83
6. Tennessee Tech	57
7. Murray State	35
8. Tennessee State	33
9. Eastern Illinois	23

For the first time since the predicted order of finish began in 1978, Austin Peay has been picked the preseason football favorite in the Ohio Valley Conference for 2020. The Governors, who shared the regular season championship last year and advanced to the quarterfinals of the FCS Playoffs, received 16 of a possible 18 first-place votes in a poll of league head coaches and communications directors.

Preseason All-OVC Team

QB - Zerrick Cooper, Jacksonville State
 QB - Bailey Fisher, Tennessee Tech
 RB - Peyton Logan, UT Martin
 RB - Alonzo Booth, Eastern Kentucky
 FB - Davin Dyal, UT Martin
 WR - DeAngelo Wilson, Austin Peay
 WR - Baniko Harley, Austin Peay
 WR - LaMarte Brooks, Murray State
 WR - Aaron Alston, Southeast Missouri
 WR - Isaiah Hill, Eastern Illinois
 TE/WR - Colton Dowell, UT Martin
 TE - Trae Barry, Jacksonville State
 OL - Blake Mitchell, Austin Peay
 OL - Aries Davis, UT Martin
 OL - Tucker Schroeder, Eastern Kentucky
 OL - Mike Rhoades, Tennessee Tech
 OL - Graham Ashkettle, Eastern Kentucky
 OL - Michael Shaddix, Jacksonville State
 OL - Cam Durley, Tennessee State
 OL - JaChai Baker, Southeast Missouri

DE - Chris Tucker, Tennessee Tech
 DT - Josephus Smith, Austin Peay
 DT - John Wesley Whiteside, Austin Peay
 DE - DJ Coleman, Jacksonville State
 OLB - Dytarius Johnson, Eastern Illinois
 ILB - Anthony Koclanakis, Murray State
 ILB - Zack Woodard, Jacksonville State
 ILB - Jack McDonald, Austin Peay
 OLB - Tai Carter, Tennessee Tech
 CB - Nick Harper Jr., Tennessee State
 CB - Yul Gowdy, Jacksonville State
 S - Jaquez Akins, UT Martin
 S - Bydarius Knighten, Southeast Missouri
 NB - Kordell Jackson, Austin Peay

K - Kendrick Tiller, Southeast Missouri
 P - Kaleb Mosley, Tennessee State
 KR - Metrius Fleming, Tennessee Tech
 PR - Malik Honeycutt, Murray State

Preseason Offensive Player of the Year

DeAngelo Wilson (WR), Austin Peay

Preseason Defensive Player of the Year

Kordell Jackson (DB), Austin Peay

Austin Peay senior wide receiver DeAngelo Wilson and senior nickelback Kordell Jackson were named the 2020 OVC Preseason Offensive and Defensive Players of the Year in a vote of by the league's head football coaches and communications directors.

Austin Peay led the way with seven total selections, while Jacksonville State finished with six, Tennessee Tech and UT Martin had five apiece, Southeast Missouri had four, Eastern Kentucky, Murray State and Tennessee State had three each and Eastern Illinois had two.

Returning players who were first-team All-OVC selections last year (seven in total) were automatic selections to the preseason team this year. The squad also included 15 players who were second-team picks in 2019. Of the 38 total selections, 20 were seniors, 16 were juniors and two were sophomores.

Poll/Team was voted on in June 2020.

2020-21 OVC SEASON NOTES/PREVIEW

Let's Get It Started: The 73rd season of Ohio Valley Conference football got underway on Saturday, August 29 with Austin Peay playing Central Arkansas in the FCS Kickoff in Montgomery, Alabama. Austin Peay was one of four OVC teams to play a limited fall season, while Conference play was pushed to the spring where the eight teams who elected to participate in the spring will compete in a seven-game round robin schedule. Since its beginning, 15 of the 18 total schools that have played football in the league have claimed at least one championship.

Recent Playoff Success: Beginning with the 2001 season the OVC went until 2013 without a FCS Playoff victory. But over the past seven seasons OVC teams have performed well in the playoffs, winning 11 total games.. In 2013 the OVC placed three teams in the field for the first time and each won at least one game with Eastern Illinois and Jacksonville State advancing to the quarterfinals (the first time that had happened in the league since 1991). In 2015 Jacksonville State (who during that year became the first OVC team ranked No. 1 in the Top 25 since 1999) won three playoff games to become the first OVC team to advance to the National Championship game since 1982. Along the way JSU set an OVC record for points in a playoff game with 58 against Charleston Southern in the quarterfinals, and then broke the record a week later in a 62-10 victory over Sam Houston State in the semifinals. In 2018 Jacksonville State and Southeast Missouri each won a game in the playoffs. In 2019 Austin Peay won two games to advance to the FCS Quarterfinals.

More on the Playoffs: Austin Peay's run in its first-ever playoff appearance last year marked the first OVC team to make the Quarterfinals since 2015. Three Govs became just the 10th OVC team to win multiple playoff games in the same season in league history. The Governors are one of just 20 programs in FCS history (out of 114 who have competed) to win two or more playoff games in its first-ever playoff appearance. Out of the 20 teams who have accomplished the feat, only six have come in the past 26 years (Florida Atlantic, Wofford, Texas State, North Dakota State, Kennesaw State and Austin Peay).

The FCS Playoffs: In 2010 the Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) playoff field expanded to 20 teams, up from 16 previously, and in 2013 the field increased to 24 for the first time. The expansion in 2010 to 20 teams was the first since the field grew from 12 to 16 teams in 1997. The 24-team field is comprised of 10 automatic bids and 14 at-large berths. There are eight first round matchups (16 total teams), while eight (8) teams receive a bye into the second round. For the 11th time in 2020, the championship game will be played in Frisco, Texas at Toyota Stadium, a 20,500-seat multi-purpose stadium. The Southland Conference will serve as the host of the championship, which will be held on on a TBD day during the weekend of May 14-16.

Sgt. York Trophy Presented by Delta Dental and Farm Bureau Health Plans:

Beginning in 2014 Delta Dental of Tennessee became the presenting sponsor of the Sgt. York Trophy. They were joined by Farm Bureau Health Plans of Tennessee in 2019. The trophy (founded in 2007 by the Nashville Sports Council and OVC) goes to the winner of the quadrangular season football series between the four OVC football-playing schools located in the state of Tennessee (Austin Peay, Tennessee State, Tennessee Tech and UT Martin). The award is only the second traveling trophy that involves more than two teams in college sports; the other is the Commander in Chief's Trophy which has been contested between Air Force, Army and Navy annually since 1972. The award is named in honor of Alvin C. York, the most noted Soldier of World War I. As a corporal in the 2nd battalion, 328th Infantry, in the Battle of the Meuse River-Argonne (Oct. 8, 1918), York and seven other soldiers captured 132 prisoners, was promoted to sergeant and received the Distinguished Service Cross, the French Croix de Guerre, the French Legion of Honor, the Croce di Guerra of Italy and the War Medal of Montenegro. Upon his return to the United States in 1919, he was bestowed the Congressional Medal of Honor.

The OVC vs. the FBS: Entering the 2020-21 season (prior to fall competition), in five of the past eight and six of the past 10 seasons, an OVC team has knocked off a team from the Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS). OVC teams are 35-246-1 all-time against FBS opponents with 10 games on the 2020 schedule.

A Look at the Coaches: Six of the nine OVC coaches from last season return to their respective teams in 2020. Jacksonville State's **John Grass**, Tennessee State's



OHIO VALLEY CONFERENCE



Rod Reed and Tennessee Tech's **Dewayne Alexander** are currently coaching at their alma maters. The longest tenured coach in the league is UT Martin's **Jason Simpson** who enters his 15th season with the Skyhawks in 2020-21; Simpson is the sixth-winningest coach in OVC history.

Preseason Forecasts: Austin Peay has been tabbed the favorite heading into the 2020-21 season. Is being picked first in the preseason poll necessarily a good thing? In the past 43 years of preseason polls (all that were available), the preseason predicted champion has only gone on to win the OVC Championship 19 times (44.2%).

Year	Predicted Champion	Actual Champion
2010	Jacksonville State	Southeast Missouri
2011	Jacksonville State	Eastern Kentucky/Jax State/Tennessee Tech
2012	Eastern Kentucky	Eastern Illinois
2013	Eastern Illinois	Eastern Illinois
2014	Jacksonville State	Jacksonville State
2015	Jacksonville State	Jacksonville State
2016	Jacksonville State	Jacksonville State
2017	Jacksonville State	Jacksonville State
2018	Jacksonville State	Jacksonville State
2019	Jacksonville State	Austin Peay/Southeast Missouri
2020	Austin Peay	?

ESPN+: The season all league contests will be broadcast on ESPN+. This marks the third year of the OVC's deal with ESPN+, the multi-sport, direct-to-consumer video service from The Walt Disney Company's Direct-to-Consumer & International segment, being the exclusive home of regular season and OVC Championship broadcasts. Fans can subscribe to ESPN+ for \$5.99 a month (or \$49.99 per year) or as part of a bundle with Disney+ and ad-supported Hulu (\$12.99/month). ESPN+ is an integrated part of the ESPN App and (on mobile and connected devices) and ESPN.com. More information can be found at www.OVCsports.com/ESPN.



Austin Peay senior WR DeAngelo Wilson was named the Preseason OVC Offensive Player of the Year. Last season he led all FCS players with 1,564 receiving yards (the second-most in OVC history). He caught 89 passes (ninth in OVC history) and tallied 15 touchdowns (fifth in OVC history).

RETURNING STATISTICAL LEADERS

Following are a look at the top statistical returners this season based on their production during the 2019 season (current year of eligibility indicated in parenthesis).

Passing	Comp.-Att.	Yds.	TD/Int.
Zerrick Cooper, JSU (Sr.)	260-439	3404	28/12
Preston Rice, MUR (Sr.)	281-441	2932	20/13
Bailey Fisher, TTU (Sr.)	231-375	2643	21/1
John Bachus III, UTM (So.)	188-332	2549	18/9
Harry Woodbery, EIU (Sr.)	169-329	1631	10/10

Rushing	Att.	Yds.	TD's
Peyton Logan, UTM (Sr.)	109	784	6
Alonzo Booth, EIU (Sr.)	140	673	14
Zion Custis, SEMO (Sr.)	142	684	5
Geno Hess, SEMO (So.)	102	575	6
Michael Matthews, JSU (Sr.)	127	585	5

Receiving	Rec.	Yds.	TD's
DeAngelo Wilson, APSU (Sr.)	89	1564	15
Isaiah Hill, EIU (Sr.)	56	560	4
Baniko Harley, APSU (Sr.)	53	839	7
LaMarte Brooks, MUR (Sr.)	47	819	7
Colton Dowell, UTM (Sr.)	38	765	4

Tackles	UT	AT	Total
Anthony Koclanakis, MUR (Sr.)	63	61	124
Zack Woodard, JSU (Sr.)	43	53	96
Jack McDonald, APSU (Sr.)	57	59	116
JaQuez Akins, UTM (Sr.)	54	38	92
Seth Carlisle, TTU (Sr.)	27	61	88

Sacks	Sacks	Yds.
Josephus Smith, APSU (Sr.)	7.5	62
Henry Karimu, TTU (Sr.)	5.5	30
Chris Tucker, TTU (Sr.)	5.5	27
DJ Coleman, JSU (Sr.)	5.0	31
Dytarious Johnson, EIU (Sr.)	4.5	27

Interceptions	Int.	Yds.	TD's
Kordell Jackson, APSU (Sr.)	7	159	2
JJ Ross, EIU (So.)	4	55	0
D'Carrious Stephens, UTM (Sr.)	3	28	1
Daulson Fitzpatrick, EIU (Sr.)	3	38	0
Seth Carlisle, TTU (Sr.)	3	22	0

ALL-TIME COACHING VICTORIES

Former EIU coach Roy Kidd, who is in the College Football Hall of Fame, finished his career with 315 overall and 207 OVC victories, both of which are OVC records. In total 98 coaches have led programs while a member of the OVC from 1948 to the present. (Records entering Fall 2020)

Coach	Years	Record
1. Roy Kidd (EKU)	1964-02	315-123-8 (.715)
2. Boots Donnelly (AP/MT)	1977-78, 79-98	154-94-1 (.620)
3. Charles Murphy (MTSU)	1952-68	117-53-5 (.683)
4. Jimmy Feix (WKU)	1968-81	99-43-5 (.690)
5. Bob Spoo (EIU)	1996-11	92-82 (.529)
6. Jason Simpson (UTM)	2006-present	87-73 (.545)
7. Don Wade (TTU)	1968-82	81-78-3 (.509)
8. Jack Crowe (JSU)	2003-12	73-39 (.652)
9. Wilburn Tucker (TTU)	1954-67	70-66-5 (.514)
10. Bill Furgerson (MUR)	1967-77	60-49-4 (.549)
11. John Grass (JSU)	2014-present	58-18 (.763)
14. Rod Reed (TSU)	2010-present	56-56 (.500)
15. Dean Hood (EKU)	2008-15, '20-present	55-38 (.698)
28. Tom Matukewicz (SEMO)	2014-present	33-38 (.465)
76. Dewayne Alexander (TTU)	2018-present	7-16 (.304)
90. Adam Cushing (EIU)	2019-present	1-11 (.083)
- Scotty Walden (APSU)	2020-present	0-0 (.000)
- Walt Wells (EKU)	2020-present	0-0 (.000)

Note: Wins are in all games while team has been a member of the Ohio Valley Conference.



OHIO VALLEY CONFERENCE



2020-21 COMPOSITE OVC SCHEDULE

Thursday, August 29

#11 Central Arkansas 24, #13 Austin Peay 17
(Montgomery, Ala.)

Saturday, September 5

@Marshall 59, Eastern Kentucky 0

Saturday, September 12

@West Virginia 56, Eastern Kentucky 10
@Pittsburgh 55, #13 Austin Peay 0

Saturday, September 19

@#13 Cincinnati 55, #13 Austin Peay 20

Saturday, September 26

Eastern Kentucky 37, @The Citadel 14

Saturday, October 3

Houston Baptist 33, @Eastern Kentucky 30
@Florida State 41, Jacksonville State 24

Saturday, October 10

@Jacksonville State 34, Mercer 28

Saturday, October 17

Jacksonville State 24, @North Alabama 17
@Troy 31, Eastern Kentucky 29

Friday, October 23

Jacksonville State 19, @FIU 10

Saturday, October 24

@Eastern Kentucky 31, Central Arkansas 28

Friday, October 30

@Southern Illinois 20, Southeast Missouri 17

Saturday, November 7

Stephen F. Austin 24, @Eastern Kentucky 6

Saturday, November 14

@Central Arkansas 37, Eastern Kentucky 25

Saturday, November 21

@Eastern Kentucky 49, Western Carolina 17

Sunday, February 21

*Eastern Illinois at UT Martin, 1:00 p.m. (ESPN+)
*Austin Peay at Tennessee Tech, 1:30 p.m. (ESPN+)
*Jacksonville St. at Tennessee St., 2 p.m. (ESPN+)
*Murray St. at Southeast Missouri, 2 p.m. (ESPN+)

Sunday, February 28

*SE Missouri at Eastern Illinois, 1 p.m. (ESPN+)
*Tennessee State at Austin Peay, 2:00 p.m. (ESPN+)
*UT Martin at Murray State, 2:00 p.m. (ESPN+)
*Tennessee Tech at Jacksonville St., 3 p.m. (ESPN+)

Sunday, March 7

OPEN

Sunday, March 14

*Eastern Illinois at Tennessee St., 1 p.m. (ESPN+)
*Jacksonville State at UT Martin, 1 p.m. (ESPN+)
*Murray St. at Tennessee Tech, 1:30 p.m. (ESPN+)
*Austin Peay at SE Missouri, 2 p.m. (ESPN+)

Sunday, March 21

*Tennessee Tech at Eastern Illinois, 1 p.m. (ESPN+)
*UT Martin at Austin Peay, 2:00 p.m. (ESPN+)
*SE Missouri at Jacksonville St., 2 p.m. (ESPN+)
*Tennessee St. at Murray State, 2 p.m. (ESPN+)

Sunday, March 28

*Austin Peay at Jacksonville State, 2 p.m. (ESPN+)
*Eastern Illinois at Murray State, 2:00 p.m. (ESPN+)
*Tennessee Tech at SE Missouri, 2 p.m. (ESPN+)
*UT Martin at Tennessee State, 2:00 p.m. (ESPN+)

Saturday, April 3

*Jacksonville St. at Eastern Illinois, 1 p.m. (ESPN+)
*Southeast Missouri at UT Martin, 1 p.m. (ESPN+)
*Tennessee St. at Tennessee Tech, 1:30 p.m. (ESPN+)
*Murray State at Austin Peay, 2:00 p.m. (ESPN+)

Sunday, April 11

*Austin Peay at Eastern Illinois, 1 p.m. (ESPN+)
*Jacksonville State at Murray St., 2 p.m. (ESPN+)
*SE Missouri at Tennessee State, 2:30 p.m. (ESPN+)
*Tennessee Tech at UT Martin, 3:00 p.m. (ESPN+)

Saturday, April 17

OPEN

Saturday, April 24/Sunday, April 25

FCS Playoffs First Round

Saturday, May 1/Sunday, May 2

FCS Playoffs Quarterfinals

Saturday, May 8/Sunday, May 9

FCS Playoffs Semifinals

Friday, May 14/Saturday, May 15/Sunday, May 16

FCS Playoffs Championship (Frisco, Texas)

* - Denotes OVC contest

All Times CENTRAL

Dates and times subject to change