

Gabby Schultz knows no limits

SHAWN ANNARELLI
sports editor

Gabby Schultz, at five feet tall, is at least a half-foot shorter than every other girl on the Behrend women's volleyball team. Don't let her short stature fool you.

She wears a size six shoe, occasionally shops in the kid's section and is often mistaken for a younger person. Don't let these particulars fool you, either.

"Everyone thinks you have to be tall to play volleyball," Schultz says. "I don't think they realize there is a whole other half of the court. It's not like basketball where I would get stuffed 500 times a game."

Schultz has been an athlete ever since she could step onto a softball field, and she wrestled and played basketball when she was younger, too. Then, when she played a pick-up game of volleyball at a graduation party before her sixth grade year, she became instantly hooked.

"It reminded me of a balloon game my brothers and I played as kids," Schultz said. "It was when you did anything possible to not let the balloon hit the floor. I thought it was an interesting sport."

Volleyball has taught her a lot in the seven years she has played.

"It teaches you to think on your feet," Schultz says. "Volleyball is such a fast paced sport. You have to make quick decisions and hope it is the right one. Leadership skills are also a big part of playing."

She started playing volleyball in seventh grade when height did not play a major factor

because "the other girls didn't know how to spike."

As the years progressed the other girls started to spike. Schultz just continued learning the game and has always gotten the most out of her abilities.

In her first year at Saegertown High School she was the only freshman to start on the varsity level.

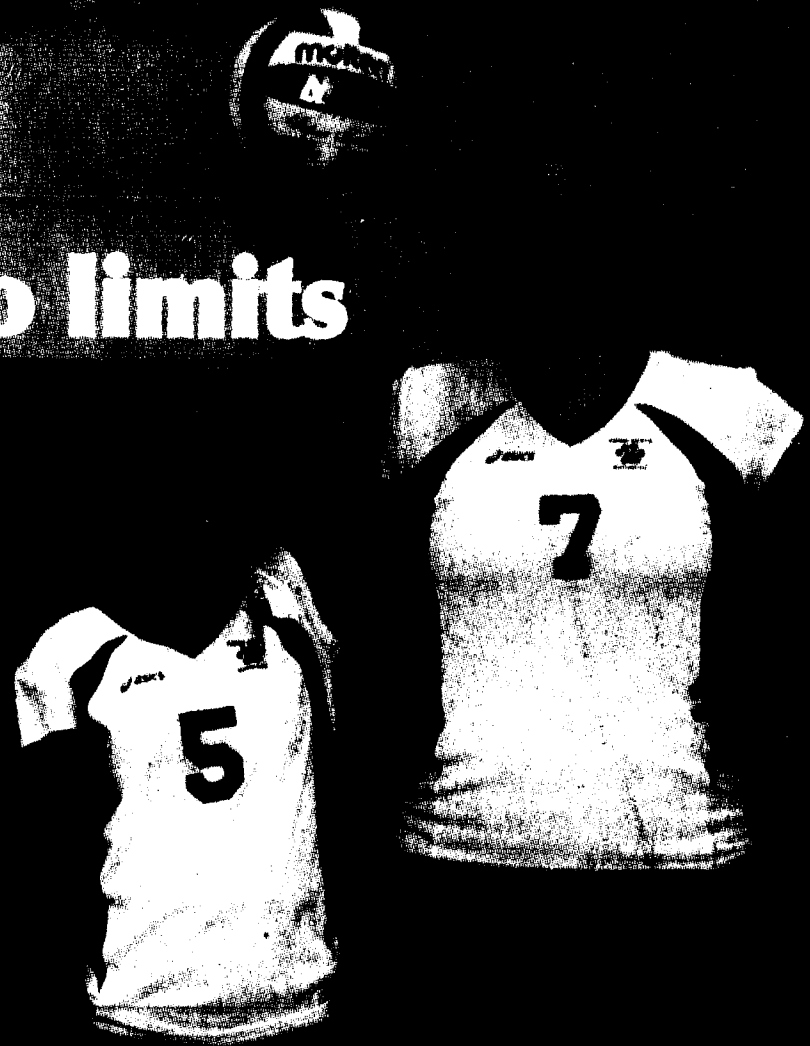
Schultz played the libero position her sophomore, junior and senior years, covering most of the backcourt for her hitters. By the time she graduated she was the varsity volleyball team's captain during her senior year, was named a three-time District 10 All-Star and was a two-time member of the *Meadville Tribune's* dream team.

Schultz's contributions to Saegertown High's volleyball squad helped the team reach the playoffs every year she played. In her senior campaign she led Saegertown to District 10's championship game against Maplewood High.

Unfortunately, she was sidelined during pre-game warm ups due to a concussion and powerlessly watched as her team lost.

Now Schultz can be found paying her dues on Behrend's volleyball team. She might have to wait every other game to get into the action, but her time on the team has already been gratifying.

"My experience has been a rewarding one," Schultz says. "I've learned so many new things, and the team is amazing. We're all so close, like a family. I feel like we can rely on each other not just in volleyball but outside of it, too."



Freshman Gabby Schultz (left), at five feet tall, is a half-foot shorter than team mate and senior Sheila Ogden (right).

Photo by Daniel Smith - The Behrend Beacon

Join Us For Happy Hour in your neighborhood



\$4 APPETIZERS

EVERYDAY 4-6PM

- Crunchy Onion Rings\$4
- Boneless Wings\$4
- Classic Wings\$4
- Mozzarella Sticks\$4
- Quesadilla Grande\$4
- Cheese Quesadilla\$4
- Spinach Artichoke Dip\$4
- Veggie Patch Pizza\$4

Price listed reflects 1/2 price discount. One per person.
Dine In Only. Excludes 20 piece wings.

HAPPY HOUR

EVERYDAY 4-6PM

- \$1 OFF Any Brewpub
- \$1 OFF Any Draft
- \$1 OFF Any Pint

APPLEBEE'S

EVERYDAY

- \$1.00
- ALL DAY
- SAVEDAY



Accepted Here

Applebee's

4002 Buffalo Road
Harborcreek - (814) 898-0150