

Behrend Short on Basketball Players

By: Michael Ross
Collegian Staff Writer

Dave Adams, the Assistant Women's Basketball Coach at Behrend has been involved with the coaching of women's sports for 11 years. We asked him what his feelings were on the subject.

Q. With your involvement in women's sports do you see a lack of participation by women in college level athletics?

A. Yes; however, this lack of participation does not occur at every level, so we'll limit our discussion to women's sports at Penn State-Behrend and division III schools.

Q. What do you attribute this problem to?

A. Since Behrend is a division III school there isn't as much fan interest or support as there would be with the larger division I schools.

Furthermore, no scholarships are given at the division III level, so many players need to work to finance their education and therefore, it is up to the coach to go out and recruit players, and sell them on the benefits of athletic competition.

Last year our women's basketball coach, knowing she was going to leave at the end of the year, did

not recruit any players.

So far this year only ten players have expressed an interest in participating in basketball. The four returning players from last year's squad, along with six interested newcomers with no collegiate experience leaves the team short of numbers.

Q. Do you think there are other factors such as the desire for a social life that take priority over sports at the college level?

A. Certainly, if a woman in college has to make a choice among a social life, academics, work, and athletics I think in most cases she would find athletics to be of least

importance to her.

Also, there is the burnout issue. After years of playing scholastic sports, many find themselves "burned out" by the time they reach college. They are no longer interested in dedicating their time to daily practice.

Q. Do you feel that there is any pressure by men on women to not join athletic teams?

A. Not necessarily; I feel the woman puts a lot of pressure on herself. If she tries to balance her time between boyfriend and athletics she feels pressured that her boyfriend won't understand her dedication to the sport.

Sometimes, this pressure would keep a woman from even becoming involved in athletics.

Q. What would you do to encourage women to participate in college sports?

A. I'd point out to them the benefits of meeting new people, and going to new places, and having new experiences. Four years I had a team that won districts and was able to fly to Portland, Maine for the area playoffs. Some players had never been on a plane before and even though we did not win it was a great learning experience.

Athletic competition teaches a woman to be a leader, something that is beneficial in any profession, and helps if she chooses to become a coach in the future.

Look for future issues with interviews with other athletic coaches dealing with women in sports.

WOMEN'S VARSITY

VOLLEYBALL

Head Coach - Jan Wilson

Sept. 14/15	Malone Trny.	A	
22	Waynesburg	A	1 p.m.
	West Liberty		
25	Carlow	H	6 p.m.
	Lake Erie College		
27	Grove City	A	7 p.m.
	Mercyhurst		
Oct.	2 Geneva	A	6 p.m.
	Seton Hill		
	9 Westminster	A	6 p.m.
	Waynesburg		
	13 Villa Maria	H	11 a.m.
	Seton Hill		
	16 Thiel	H	6 p.m.
	18 Mercyhurst	H	6 p.m.
	20 Fredonia Trny.	A	10 a.m.
	23 Grove City	A	6 p.m.
	25 Geneva	H	6 p.m.
	Pitt-Bradford		
	30 Gannon	A	7 p.m.
Nov.	1 Westminster	H	6 p.m.
	3 NAIA District #18		
	5 Villa Maria	A	6 p.m.
	Allegheny		
	8 Thiel	A	7 p.m.

Gorge Cafeteria

New Hours

11-2 Mon.-Fri. Lunch

4:30-7 Mon.-Thurs. Dinner

Pizza Shop 8-11 Sun.-Thurs.

Come On Up!

Spikers Set

By: Paula Penco

The girls volleyball team is all set for the '84 season. It will begin Sept. 14 & 15 when they venture to a tournament at Malone College in Canton, Ohio. Six other teams from the surrounding Ohio area will also compete.

Coach Jan Wilson feels real confident about this year's team. Five veterans will be returning as well as four ambitious new players.

Returning players included: sophomores Julie Pletz, Renee Harrison and Julie DeFrancisco, junior Mary Toboz, and senior Kathy Ott who has been elected team captain for the second consecutive year.

New faces on the team include: freshman Tracy Zurasky, sophomores Terri Ballantine and Carolyn Shudy and senior Joan Baker.

The girls practice during the week from 4 to 6 p.m. They are preparing for district playoffs which will take place on Oct. 20, in Fredonia. The girls were last year's district playoff champions.

We wish them the best of luck this year. So remember to support our team and come cheer them on!

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION ELECTION

Tuesday & Wednesday

September 25 & 26

Reed Union Building 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

S.G.A. '84 I.D Required