

Lady Lions lose six straight

Poor communication and weak defense cited as problems

by Matt Cissne
The Collegian

The Lady Lions volleyball team dropped two matches Tuesday night at Erie Hall. They lost to Case Western Reserve 14-16, 7-15 and Theil College 15-10, 11-15, 7-15.

Behrend started strong against Case Western and won the first four points on co-captain Pam Allshouse's serve.

The Lions continued to play well and they had built up a 13-7 lead when all of a sudden the walls caved in. Case Western took advantage of a couple costly errors by Behrend and stole the game, 16-14.

In the second game, Behrend started sluggishly and quickly fell behind 1-8. Behind the strong net game of Carrie Grzejka, Alexis Pasteur, and co-captain Kellie Jordan, the Lions pulled within four before Case Western stormed back and won 15-11.

Against Theil, the Lions came out smoking and they played very aggressively, unfortunately Theil did also. They played tough and after 20 points the score was 10-10.

Then the Lions exploded. They had a 14-10 lead when Allshouse slammed down the 15th point to give Behrend their only win of the night.

The Lions had momentum in the second game and they pulled out to a seemingly unsurmountable 8-1 lead. The crowd began to cheer, "warm up the buses, Theil."

Unfortunately Theil was not ready to go home.

They came back with a vengeance and won the second game 15-11.

Tied at 1-1, the match now came down to the third and final game. Kelly Burkhardt and Grzejka played extremely well, but they could not rally the team and Behrend fell 7-15.

The Lions have now lost six straight. They dropped four matches at the highly competitive Allegheny Tournament this past weekend.

Despite the six game losing streak, Coach Jan Wilson remains positive.

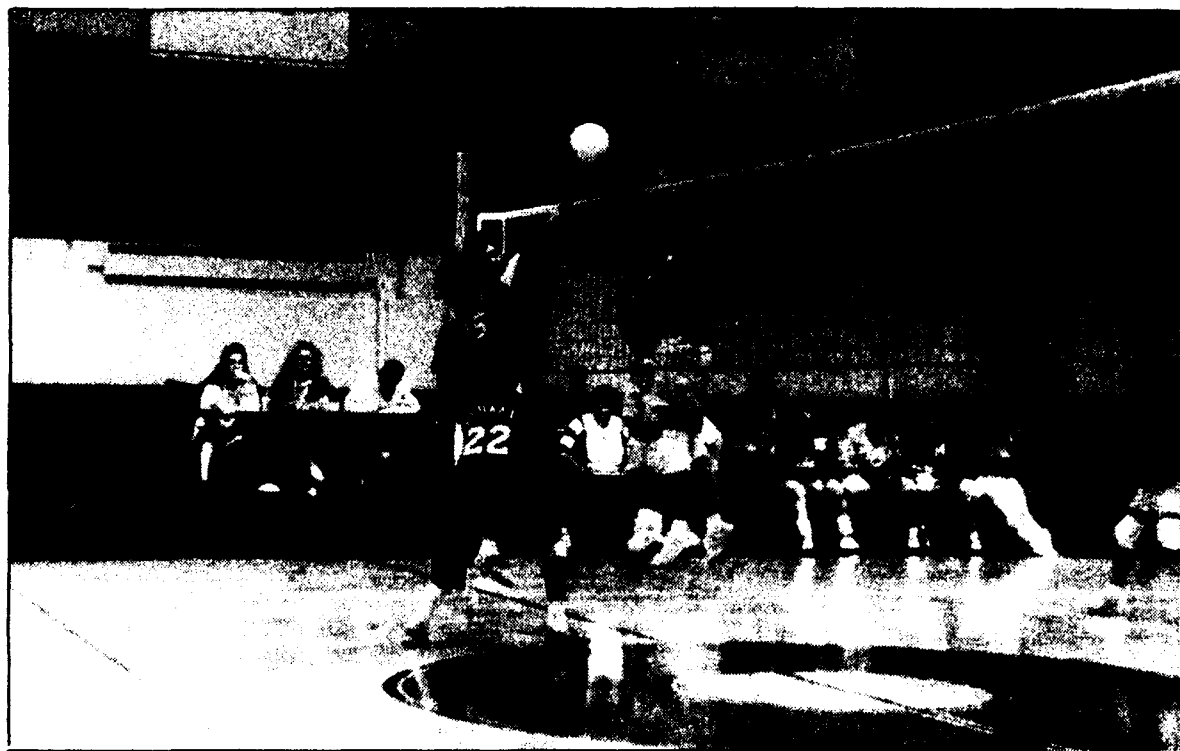
"After this weekend's tough tournament, the girls came to practice early and eager to work. They have a good attitude and they are resilient."

Wilson does not ignore the negatives though. "We need to play more aggressively, we need to communicate better and we need to play stronger defense."

Wilson is pleased with newcomer Lori Nadolny. "She (Nadolny) is a hard worker and is eager to improve. She is also a good leader and tries to inspire the team."

Another bright spot on the team has been the play of hitters Pasteur and Grzejka. This fearsome tandem have combined for almost 100 kills already this season.

The Lions will try to get back on track Thursday at Fredonia when they play Pitt-Bradford and Fredonia.

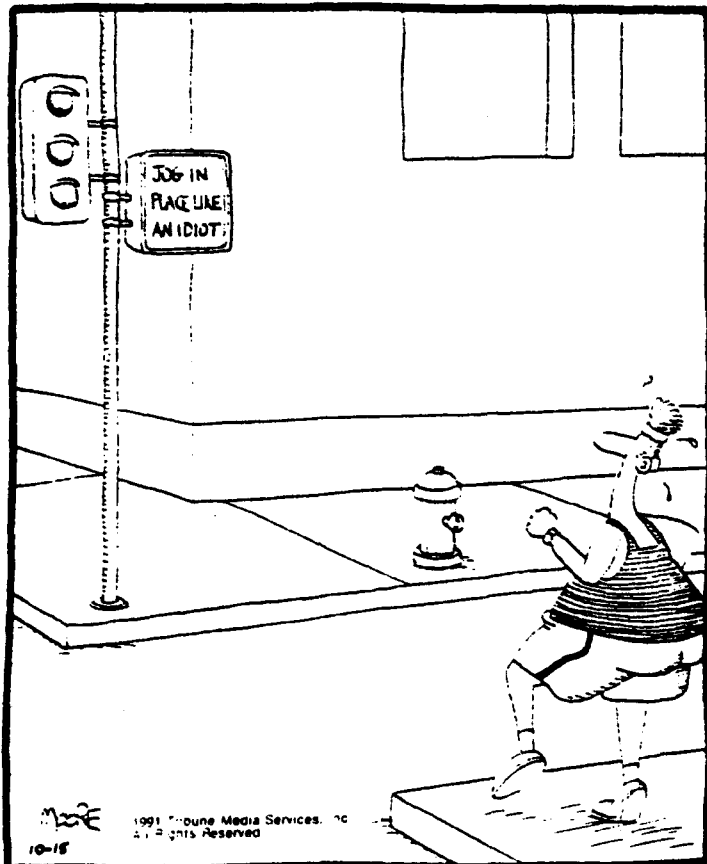


Louis Gavin/The Collegian

In your face: Kellie Jordan, # 15, goes up against Theil defenders for an attempted spike.

IN THE BLEACHERS

by Steve Moore



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