

Coach Jan Wilson chalks up win 250

by Matt Cissne
The Collegian

Trivia Question: What do the Lady Lions' head coach Jan Wilson and the legendary football coach Bear Bryant have in common?

Answer: They both have over 250 wins in their coaching careers.

The Lady Lions' head coach, Jan Wilson, has won over 250 matches at Behrend. Her 250th win came against Buffalo State on September 9th.

Wilson is in her 16th season as head coach of the Lady Lions. She was the initial coach and is still going strong.

She went to Slippery Rock University, but since they did not offer women's volleyball as a varsity sport, she played basketball during her senior year.

Wilson became interested in volleyball while living in California.

"It was played a little different then," Wilson said. "Everyone served underhand and you were allowed to set it to yourself."

Wilson feels that her biggest strength as a coach is her ability to communicate with her players. She said that this communication helps her players to develop skills faster and to work harder.

Not having played competitive volleyball is Wilson's biggest weakness.

"There are some things that you cannot teach," explains Wilson, "and there are some things that you just pick up while playing."

Her best coaching moment

was in 1984 when Behrend won the district 18 championship.

The interaction with the players is what keeps Wilson's coaching fires burning bright.

"I get a natural high from working with the kids," she said. "I enjoy seeing the girls get better and grow, especially when I coach someone for four years."

She hopes to instill discipline, leadership skills, team spirit and self confidence in her players. "I feel that these are all important for their future careers," she said.

In practice, Wilson stresses hard work, basic skills and competitiveness. Off the court, she believes that her players should take care of themselves.

"I don't want to be their mommy," she said. "They have to learn to be responsible and balance their responsibilities. If they make a mistake, they have to be able to learn from it."

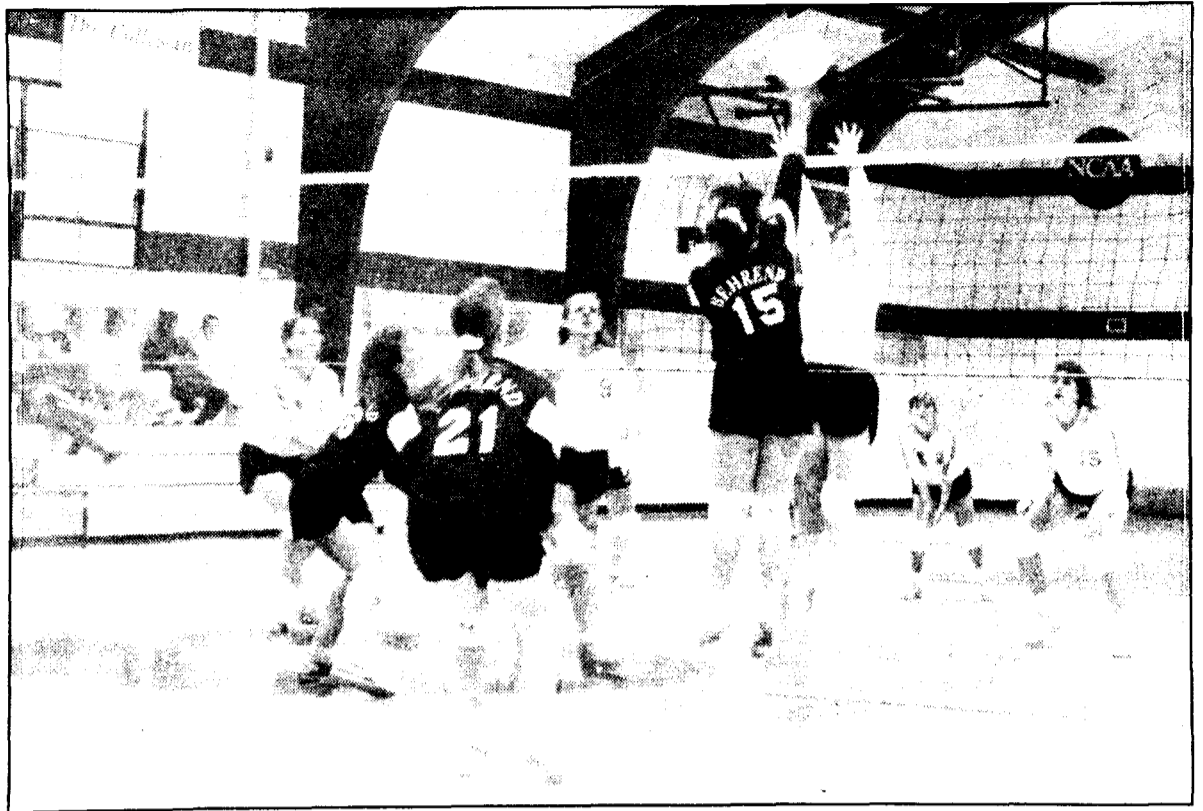
"It is a hard thing to do because I care so much about them," continues Wilson, "but I know it is the best thing for them."

She added that she feels very close to this year's team.

"I respect our players. They are young and have great potential. They work hard and never complain, even the players who don't get a chance to play in the matches."

Wilson had some words of wisdom for all future coaches, "good talent makes life a lot happier."

After 250 wins, Coach Wilson must be one happy coach.



Louis Gavin/The Collegian

Lady Lions wipe out Wooster

by Bryan Chaffee
The Collegian

The Lady Lions volleyball team improved their record to 7-8 by defeating Wooster College last Tuesday in Erie Hall.

It was a hard fought game, but Behrend simply overpowered Wooster, beating them 15-7, 15-

7, and 15-2.

Leading the charge were Carrie Grzejka and Kelly Burkhardt. These two owned the net and led the team in kills. Also adding to the victory was the terrific serving of Amy Stranahan and Kellie Jordan.

Stranahan and Jordan combined for seven serving aces.

Jan Wilson, who is in her 16th year as a coach for Behrend, had this to say about her ladies, "They really played well and have been working hard. Their skills seem to be developing quickly."

The Lady Lions' next battle is tonight at Grove City.

IN THE BLEACHERS

by Steve Moore



The Bonehead Brothers go fishing

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