Sports

Lions on a roll

by Joseph Mottillo

The Collegian

"The third time is a charm," is a phrase that has been beaten into the ground. The Lady Lions volleyball team proved that the third time definitely was a charm.

Entering their third tournament of the season, the Lions traveled to Alfred University to play in the Alfred Tournament.

Their first opponent was a Nazareth College team that beat the Lions twice in the Red Dragon Classic in Cortland. A different Lion team showed up.

They defeated Nazareth, (15-0) and (15-1). Their next opponent was the host team, Alfred University. This was the same team that defeated the Ladies of Behrend in the Red Dragon Classic earlier in the year.

The Lions proved what goes around, comes around as they defeated Alfred (15-10) and (16-14). They advanced to play Russell Sage (Troy, New York) in the semifinals.

The Lions continued to roar

as they won in straight games (16-14) and (15-5). That set up a final against an Alfred team looking for revenge.

The team from Alfred was well on its way to winning its own tournament until they stepped on the court against the Lions. The Lions overran them as they won in straight games (15-13) and (15-5) to capture their first tournament championship of the year.

Coach Wilson commented on the tournament by saying, "We had a lot of confidence and we were more consistent than we have been.

She added, "We are starting to play for each other and we are coming together as a team."

Statistically, the team played well as they registered 80 kills and 34 aces. They completed the tournament without losing a game.

Another positive note coming out of the tournament was that everybody on the roster got to play.

Dodie Cornell and Maureen Wojtowecz both got to play for the first time this year and both performed well. Cornell had three kills and Wojtowecz added several key serves when they came into the game.

Senior captain, Pam Allshouse, said, "We're finally working together. It was a fun weekend and it was an overall team effort."

The Lions started their roll in Wooster on the 22nd as they played Wooster and Otterbein. The Lions showed a bit of what was to come in the tournament as they pounced on Wooster and defeated them in three sets.

The Lions fell to Otterbein in the next match, but moved on to Alfred and prevailed.

The team has won five out of their last six and are in good overall health. They host their first ever tournament, the Lion Classic, on October 10.

If they play like they did at Alfred, it will truly be a "classic."

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