

Benim takes on new role



Arnel Balcitra/Collegian Photo Coordinator

New for 1993, the Collegiate Coach's Starter Cap Collection: Paul Benim, Lady Lions softball head coach, and Bill Graham, assistant coach, watch the Lady Lions softball team decimate yet another opponent.

by Joe Mottillo
Collegian Staff

From assistant women's basketball coach to head softball coach to sports information director, Paul Benim has done more in his three years here at Behrend than most people have done in a lifetime.

"I love it," says Benim of being SID, "it's a great experience."

After Benim graduated from here in the spring of 1992, he became assistant women's basketball coach. He served in that position for two seasons. The Lions won the ECAC South Region during his first season and made the ECAC playoffs last year.

"Coach Banker helped a lot," said Benim of the former women's basketball coach. "She helped me take a look at the student-athlete on and off the playing field."

Last season, Benim took over one of the most successful women's softball teams in the country. He promptly led them to the ECAC championship. "It was a completely unique experience. Everything just fell into place from day one," said Benim of last season.

"The toughest part is getting all the work done," said Benim of his job. "I'm responsible for answering requests from so many people."

In the spring, Benim should receive his master's from Edinboro University. "I feel I'm a highly qualified individual with my master's coming, my coaching record, etc. I need to be at a level where I can do more than one thing. I would be more fit for Division II than Division III."

"I love what I'm doing because of the people I'm associated with. I've been blessed with very good people to work under."

V-ball learning

by Michelle Bauer
Collegian Staff

On Tuesday, September 14, the Lady Lions' volleyball team took on Case Western at home. Case Western played, "beautiful ball" according to Lions' Coach Jan Wilson. Case Western won the match 3-1. The individual game scores were 3-15, 11-15, 16-14, and 11-15.

Coach Wilson commented, "We beat ourselves. We had a lot of ball-handling errors, but we blocked well and hit well." Carrie Grzejka played really well, according to coach Wilson. "She was right in there all the time stronghitting."

The most consistent player the team has is Jen Taylor. Taylor is, "a great server, also." Amy Stranahan, weakside hitter for the team, is playing "really good defense. She has worked hard on hitting and she has improved 100%. Amy also blocks well."

Coach Wilson said, "The team needs to learn to trust each other. They have to believe in themselves, and work really hard on not making errors and mistakes."

As far as individual stats go, Grzejka leads with 40 solo blocks and 34 kills. Julie Stocker is next with 7 solo blocks and 49 kills. The team has 48 serving aces as a whole. The leading servers are Molly Samuels and Taylor with 13 aces apiece, and Stranahan with 6.

The Lady Lions' next game is tonight against Wooster, at 7:00 P.M., in Erie Hall. Coach Wilson said, "The team is

looking forward to Wooster."

After the Wooster game, the team moves on to Alfred's tournament on Saturday, where they are defending champions.

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