

Donna Pfeiffer

Nowadays, if a team wins three championships in a row, the word 'dynasty' is bandied about. If that is the case, what word would we use to describe Donna Pfeiffer's tenure with the Ambridge girls' volleyball program? The Lady Bridgers rang up a remarkable record since earning varsity status in 1973, winning 250 section games and losing only four over the next 26 years, all under the tutelage of Freedom graduate Pfeiffer.

Although Donna played basketball at West Chester State College, she jumped at the chance to start the volleyball program when it was introduced in Ambridge. In the club's first year (1972), they went 5-5 but since 1973 have won 23 section championships, tying for first the other three years. The team made the WPIAL playoffs four years, finishing as high as third twice. The team has also earned 11 Midwestern Athletic Conference championships.

The Lady Bridger volleyball squad ran up 122 consecutive wins in section play before the streak was broken in 1998. Donna has also proven her ability to get her girls into college: no less than 71 girls have received scholarships, including 24 at Division I schools.

Donna's resume also includes successful stints with the Bridger boys volleyball team (three playoffs in five years) and the Duquesne University women (two playoffs in two years).

On April 21, 1999 Donna received the National Recognition Award for Excellence, a presidential citation, in Boston, Massachusetts. Also in 1999, Donna was inducted into the Beaver County Sports Hall of Fame.