

Volleyball Tournament Team (Standing, L to R): - Aleisha Agard, Megan Blackham, Michelle Humphrey, Arleen Holland, Miriam Vereen, Melissa McWilliams, and Crystal Benner. *Kneeling:* Mary Bass, Julie Luetting, manager Teisha Morris, Camarin Barrera, Jill Gerschütz, Deena Gerschütz, and Jessica Talbot.

The Lady Barons' volleyball team finished up the 1996 season with a record of five and seven. Although the record shows more losses than wins, it does not do justice to the abundance of talent the girls possessed. Many players felt that they lost several games to teams of lesser talent. With only two returning players, the team was a young one, but it learned quickly.

Deena Gerschütz, co-captain and team MVP, stated, "The love for the game increased throughout the season, and our ability to work together improved."

Head Coach Mike Johnson agreed. "We had a lot of fun. It's just a shame that we didn't start to gel together until the end."

Earning honors at the tournament were Deena and Jill Gerschütz, first and second team all-conference, respectively. Awards selected by the team include: Deena Gerschütz - MVP, Jessica Talbot - Most Improved, and Jill Gerschütz - Team Spirit. The team would like to thank its wonderful managers Teisha Morris and Ryan Wesley for their hard work and dedication throughout the season.

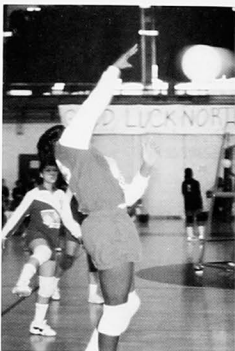
The JV team concluded the season with a record of two and

five. Coach McWilliams said of this year's team: "I enjoyed working with these girls. They all got along really well. They went from not being able to walk and chew gum at the same time to being able to hit the ball really well."

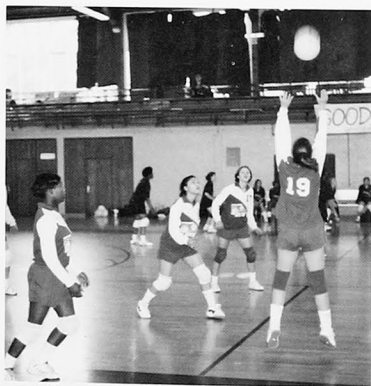
Honors awarded to the JVs include: Crystal Benner - MVP, Mandy Baumer - Most Improved, and Krystalle Lassiter - Team Spirit. Many of these girls look forward to playing varsity next year and helping with what promises to be a successful season.



The varsity team celebrates after a win.



Mary Bass spikes powerfully.



SIDEOUT! The varsity team is about to make a kill.

Below: The girls get hyped up as they prepare to take the court.

