



Penn State
Beaver

Lady Lions Basketball

The Penn State Beaver Lady Lions basketball team will begin official play in fall 2007.

Member, Penn State University Athletic Conference (PSUAC)
Member, United States Collegiate Athletic Association (USCAA)

NEWS!



Penn State Beaver Introduces Women's Basketball Coach

Staff Reports - *Beaver County Times Allegheny Times* 2007

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Penn State-Beaver has hired Bert DeSalvo, an assistant woman's coach at McMurray College in Illinois, as the first head coach of its women's basketball team. The program will begin play in the 2007-08 season. DeSalvo is not uncomfortable with the fact that there is no tradition of any sort at Penn State-Beaver, good or bad.

"The thing is that there's no sort of stigma on the team," DeSalvo said. "There's no 20 losing seasons or anything like that. I get the chance to build a program. It's pretty exciting to start from scratch."

"He's real energetic," Penn State-Beaver athletic director Andy Kirschner said of DeSalvo. "He loves the game, and just being around him, you know he's ready to get things done."

Desalvo, 27, has coached at various levels throughout his career. Along with his position at McMurray, DeSalvo previously spent a year as an assistant coach for the men's program at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. In addition, he served as head coach of women's varsity sports at Chariho High School, Rhode Island.



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For information about joining the Penn State Beaver Lady Lions basketball team, please contact head coach [Bert DeSalvo](#), 724-773-3878.

“Bert’s various experiences at different levels of college basketball make him the perfect choice for this position,” Kirschner said. “I’m confident that he’ll build the program into a competitive one very quickly.”

A nine-year coaching veteran, DeSalvo had been keeping an eye out on the Internet for just such a coaching opportunity that arose at Penn State-Beaver. “I have been interested in starting a program for a few years,” DeSalvo said. “Andy was nice enough to give me an opportunity.”

Kirschner is eager for the program to move from the planning stages to reality. “It seems like forever that we’ve been working on it,” Kirschner said. “We opened the search at the beginning of November. We had six or seven applicants and three or four really good ones. It was a tough decision.”

As for DeSalvo, he’s simply looking forward to begin finding players willing to trade their basketball talents for a Penn State education. “If I come in and get good kids with good work ethic, that’s what I’m looking for,” DeSalvo said. “I want to get kids who are self-sufficient as far as the classroom is concerned. As far as a timetable, I don’t put constraints on that sort of thing. Winning will take care of itself as long as we’re working hard and practicing hard.”

Penn State-Beaver, a member of the United States Collegiate Athletic Association (USCAA), is also adding men’s soccer to its varsity sports program in the fall.

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