



Tennis setting new program records

BREE GANNON
@BreeGannon

Looking back to the past can bring back memories of hardships and frustrations which, can be motivation to do better in the future. For the women’s tennis team, the past is in the past and there is no looking back.

The team is having one of their best seasons to date, according to the players, with a record of 3-3 overall.

A new season also brings new goals and achievements. The tennis team came into the 2017 season with a new look and a new mind set. The team’s look, however, is the same as last year except for the four newly added freshman. The team now consists of nine members including the only senior, Elizabeth Kidd.

“We have great leadership, and all the girls do a great part of knowing their role on the team.,” head coach Laurel Bolesky said. “Our lone senior Liz Kidd is a wonderful example and we are very blessed to have her as a leader on our squad.”

Kidd finished last season winning three double matches and one single match all while earning a spot

on the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference All-Academic Excellence Team.

During the 2015-2016 season, she achieved singles and doubles matches helping the team earn a win during the last match of the season.

Another face that is looking to improve in this season is junior Natalie Keron. Last season Keron won two singles matches and one doubles matches while also being named to the GLIAC All-Academic Excellence Team.

The team as a whole ended the 2015-2016 season 24-13 and graduated the only senior on the team, Megan Fitzpatrick.

Fitzpatrick ended her last collegiate season with a 6-30 record. Brooks who is currently 4-1 in singles this season, ended last season with a singles record of 2-16.

Looking to this year’s season, the team has had one of the biggest seasons since 2013.

The Eagles were able to win their first season opener, against Walsh 5-4, since 2013.

“It was a wonderful accomplishment for the team to be able to preform well and win our season opener,” Bolesky said. “Winning is

a great team builder and motivation. Our mindsets the rest of the season is to continue to be our best in all aspects of being a student athlete. Knowing that it is a process, and always putting our best foot forward.”

Each player made a contribution to the win and a faceoff with freshman Camille Ringot ended the game in favor of the Eagles. Freshman Anna Hart and Keron took their doubles match with an 8-3 effort in the third doubles spot.

Sophomore single player Allison Brooks took the No. 5 spot winning her match 6-2 and 6-0. The winning faceoff ended the five year losing streak to Walsh.

The first loss of the season came after Michigan Tech and the Huskies won 8-1.

Brooks continued her success in singles after winning 6-4 and 6-3. Hazuki Ogino played her first collegiate match and fell to Vicky Quinde, 6-7, 6-1, and 10-5.

After achieving a 1-1 record on the year, the team then went on to win two matches in a row. The first win was a 5-4 score against Lake Superior State. It was the doubles matches that helped in the win.

Ogino and Sofie Garpered were

the team that ended up in the No. 1 spot with a 8-5 win.

The third spot was filled by Ringot and Hart after winning their match 9-7.

The second win came against Capital 9-0 and yet again another streak was ended. The victory in this matchup became the first time since 2015 that the Eagles won three matches in a four game span.

They also won as many matches in their first four this season as they did in their previous 22 which

dates back to 2016.

The last two games played both ended in a 9-0 loss against Tiffin and Wayne State. Brooks suffered her first single loss of the season and moved to 4-1.

Ringot also lost her singles 6-4 and 6-2. Doubles partners Garpered and Ogino lost 8-3 in the closest doubles match of the day.

The Eagles will travel for the first time this season to play against Northwood on Oct. 6 and look to improve their 3-3 record.



Senior Liz Kidd during her first singles match of the 2017 season.

AU ATHLETICS

Tim Rose: Inside the life of a legend

BREE GANNON
@BreeGannon

A famous or important person who is known for doing extremely well or having special qualities or abilities. That is the Merriam-Webster definition of a legend. Legends can be hard to find or even come by but Ashland University has a few of their own. One of those being assistant football coach and defensive coordinator, Tim Rose.

Coach Rose has been apart of Eagles history for nine years and has been coaching football for over 50. A story that started in 1963 at Elder High School in Cincinnati, Ohio and ended in Ashland, has many great stops in between.

Rose’s love for football though started at an early age and continued on to his college career where he played for the Xavier Musketeers. Even before the glory days of college, Rose’s dad coached American football at Keio University in Japan for the X-Leagues. Learning and playing the passion of the game is what started a legendary career.

Rose started off as an assistant coach for two high schools that were local for him and from there moved to Colorado to coach at Boulder high. After moving away from the high school football field, Rose took on a position he would be at for the next 11 years. Miami University of Oxford was the place Rose called home.

Michigan, Louisiana Tech, Toledo and now Ashland University.

His time at East Carolina University in 1999 brought being named a finalist for the Broyles Award which is an annual award given to the nation’s top college football assistant coaches. He was beat out by Georgia Tech’s Ralph Friedgen.

During his first year at Louisi-

ana Tech, Rose brought the team up from 510.5 yards-per-game (ypg), a last place ranking in the country in total defense, to a 407.8 ypg. A similar occurrence happened in 2005, the first season in which the Toledo Rockets saw Rose.

Upon arriving to Toledo, the team was ranked 98th in the nation in total defense allowing 424.3 ypg. With the help and careful coaching of Rose and then head coach Tom Amstutz, the team was able to improve to 23rd in total defense and a ypg of 322.5.

“His respect among college football coaches is crazy,” head coach Lee Owens said. “I’ve been in the game a bunch and know a lot of college coaches and every coach I know asks about him. They all have such a great respect for coach Rose. He is seen as one of those guys, like Virginia Tech

defensive coordinator Bud Foster, that has that ore about him in college football.”

The story of how a respected and well-known coach, came to the little town of Ashland is all thanks to a friend of coach Owen’s. It was a national coaching convention where Owen’s first heard that Rose was looking for a job.

“A friend of mine was staying

aggression needed to win games.”

In his first two seasons at Ashland, the team led the GLIAC in pass efficiency defense and interceptions and was third in total defense and rush defense. The 2011 season brought two of the most recognized defensive linemen in the GLIAC, Jamie Meder and Jeris Pendleton. Meder signed with the Baltimore Ravens after going undrafted in the 2014 NFL draft and currently plays defensive tackle for the Cleveland Browns.

By 2012, the Eagles had one of the most developed defensive teams in the country and was fifth in the nation in scoring defense, eighth in rush defense and ninth in total defense.

All credited to coach Rose and his success with working with the team and getting to know the way they play defensive wise.

As the year’s went on, the Eagles defense got better and kept climbing up the conference and national rankings. In 2015, the defense was ranked second in the GLIAC and in 2015 it was second in total defense. By 2016, the Eagles led the GLIAC in scoring defense, total defense and passing defense.

“Coach Rose is extremely passionate and dedicated. Everything that he does for the football team is



Coach Rose going over defensive plays with the team during practice in preparation for Northern Michigan.

MEGAN FURBY

next to him and said to me, ‘you know Tim Rose is looking for an opening.’ I couldn’t believe it and asked for his number. He didn’t have to coach anymore but felt he still had something to offer,” Owens recalled.

Chuckling Owens remembers Rose’s only requirements. “When I talked with him, his only requirements were that the defensive team was his and he didn’t want to communicate via email or text.”

Being an Eagle was an important persona Rose took on and it not only meant a lot to the community members that welcomed him with open arms but to the team as well.

“There’s not another coach I would rather be out there playing for,” senior STUD Austin Utter said. “His level of intensity is unmatched on the field. His ability to communicate with the athletes brings forth a level of passion and

done with an obsession like quality,” Utter said. “Coach Rose has been able to take the game of football and tie it into our lives and our futures. Every coaching point teaches a life lesson with him.”

So far in the 2017 season, the Eagles defense has been tested but has proven, in some games, unstoppable. So far Ashland’s defense is ranked in the top 15 in the nation in scoring defense.

September 23 is a date that no member of the Eagles team will forget. It was on that night that the Eagles defense held then No. 2 ranked Ferris State to just three points and cut their total and rushing yards to under 228 and 127 yards. Strategic defensive play was the factor in Ashland only allowing 74 points and no points on 29 plays over seven drives in the second quarter.

That momentum carried on throughout the rest of the game. The Eagles also saw another great defensive game when they played Davenport and achieved their first shutout road game since Nov. 12, 1994 by winning 38-0. The talk of that game was the general knowledge that the Eagles held a team for an entire game and kept them from scoring. Coach Owens gave credit to Rose and the rest of the defensive team and celebrated the rare occasion. During that game, the Eagles allowed just 227 yards of offense.

No matter the history of the coach or what he has accomplished in the past, the only thing that matters is the right now. The history that is being made in Jack and Deb Miller Stadium is something that coach Owens and the rest of the team will remember. One of the sources of all that history? One simple answer, coach Rose.

“As a coach on a staff, we all realize that [Rose] isn’t here because he needs to make a paycheck, he is here because he thinks he has something to offer,” Owens said. “He’s here because loves to coach this game and loves to have a positive impact on the lives of younger people. The [players] want to play for Tim because they love and believe in him and he’s here for the right reasons and coaching for the right reasons. When he flips the switch the guys will go when he tells them. The AU program has been very fortunate and lucky enough to have him.”

The Eagles defense looks to make another impact on the season Saturday (Oct. 7) against Northern Michigan.

ana Tech, Rose brought the team up from 510.5 yards-per-game (ypg), a last place ranking in the country in total defense, to a 407.8 ypg. A similar occurrence happened in 2005, the first season in which the Toledo Rockets saw Rose.

Upon arriving to Toledo, the team was ranked 98th in the nation in total defense allowing 424.3 ypg. With the help and careful coaching of Rose and then head coach Tom Amstutz, the team was able to improve to 23rd in total defense and a ypg of 322.5.

“His respect among college football coaches is crazy,” head coach Lee Owens said. “I’ve been in the game a bunch and know a lot of college coaches and every coach I know asks about him. They all have such a great respect for coach Rose. He is seen as one of those guys, like Virginia Tech