

ON THE FIRST DAY of practice Monday for the Red Devil volleyball team, Lacey Ream, Heather Glodt and Heather Ploussard listened to Coach Pat Dorshorst talk about the rules. Later, Ploussard showed her form during the afternoon workout. — Herald photos by Cynthia Haynes

## Team makes the grade

The Decatur Community High volleyball team did well last year both on and off the court.

Now, Coach Pat Dorshorst's girls been awarded the American Volleyball Coaches Association Team Academic Award.

The award, started in 1993, honors high school and college teams which display excellence in the classroom and hold at least a 3.3 team grade average.

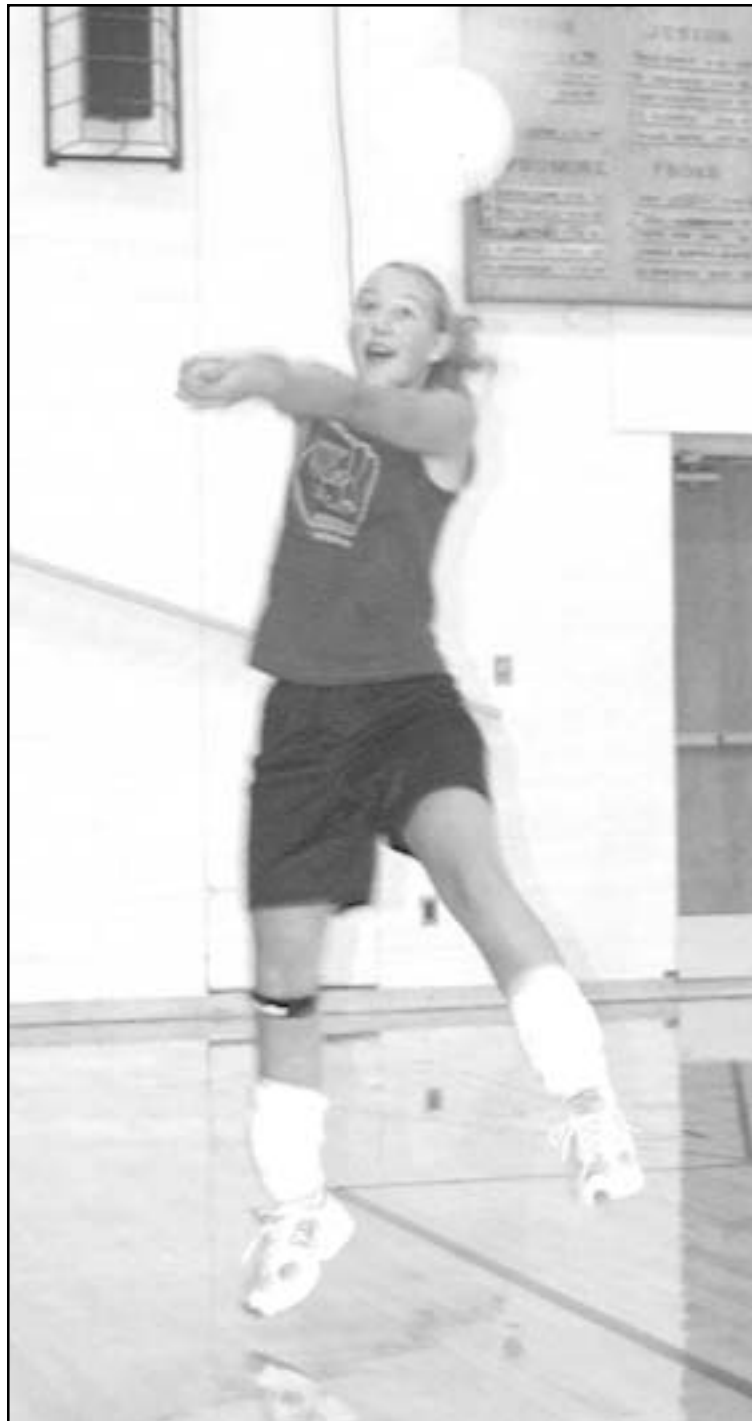
Mrs. Dorshorst, who teaches higher mathematics classes in the high school, said that she stresses academics over athletics. If a student needs more time to study, she said, they can be excused from practice.

There were 304 teams from 43 states, the District of Columbia and Korea winning the award this year, including four others in Kansas.

Also winning the academic honors award in this area were volleyball teams from Dundy County High School in Benkelman, Neb., and Wheatland High School in Grainfield.

Chadron State College in Nebraska won the award. Dani Dorshorst, a former Oberlin player and Mrs. Dorshorst's daughter, now plays on that team.

Each school will receive a plaque and each player a certificate for the award.



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