

Rosselli reaches 500 with Monday victory

by John Creer

Diminutive only in physical size is Dom Rosselli, now in his 32nd year as head coach of YSU's Penguins.

Rosselli's heart, personality, friendliness, and enthusiasm can match that of anyone around. Modesty is also a strong trait of Rosselli even after reaching a career milestone of 500 coaching victories in Monday night's win at Northern Kentucky.

All the credit for win number 500 and every triumph leading to it were given to his players past and present by the humble Rosselli who especially points out the fine work of assistant mentor Bob Chuey, who also played under Dom at YSU.

Rosselli with a career mark of 501 wins against 311 losses (62 percent) now ranks 13th on the all-time list of total coaching victories in the entire nation. YSU cagers under Rosselli have appeared in 12 post-season tournaments compiling a 19-14 record.

Born and raised in the Youngstown area, Rosselli graduated from Rayen High School and came to YSU in 1939 first as an assistant football and basketball coach. Rosselli worked his way up and earned the head coaching post of the Penguins. Rosselli gives much credit to his wife, Connie, who understands her husband's work and has been a big factor in Dom's success. The Rosselli's have four children, three boys, one girl, and four grandchildren.

One memory of his career that has had "duration" was the intense rivalry between YSU and

Steubenville in the late 50's. Rosselli feels that these matches, including a tournament tussle between the Penguins and Steubenville which set a South Fieldhouse attendance record of 4,400, did much for the successful basketball program at YSU by attracting players and fans alike.

Student support at YSU has been "good" observes Rosselli who admits "you can't please everyone."

Coach Rosselli does not have any personal goals established for the future but will "let things happen as they happen." Concerning the team, however, the squad strives for about "17 to 18 victories and a tournament appearance each season."

Also doubling as YSU's head baseball coach, Rosselli has a sparkling 311-158 diamond record in 21 years at the helm.

Rosselli was asked if any communications problem ever

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Coach Dom Rosselli

Rosselli

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arises between between him and the squad. "Communication," states Rosselli, "means the respect and confidence that you have for others and that they have for you." No barriers ever exist between Rosselli and his boys who hold their coach in the highest regard.

Even if not a YSU basketball fan, one could not help but admire and respect the fine job that Dom Rosselli has done not only at YSU but throughout the entire community as well.