

# What attracts coaches to Wesleyan?

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Athletic Director Mike Fox said, "Women coaches tend to move around. That is their nature. They are not quite as stable if they are single. Most men coaches at Wesleyan are married which means they are more stable."

The average length of service of a volleyball coach is two years.

The program started under Jean Edge in 1979. She is now the Assistant Professor of Physical Education. Edge started coaching the program for two years just to get it started. She was also the head women's basketball coach in 1976 and the softball coach from 1978 to 1981.

Debbie Allison, head volleyball coach in 1981 and 1982, and head softball coach from 1982 to 1984, said she started as a volleyball coach for two years and as a softball coach for three years because of the good relationships she had with her players.

Jetanna McClain is currently in her second year as a volleyball and softball coach at Wesleyan.

"I love it here," McClain said. "I've always wanted to coach on college level and I took the opportunity they offered me."

"I had an enjoyable career at Wesleyan," McClain said. "And now I have the opportunity to give something back to the school that once gave me so much."

The average length of service of a women's basketball coach

since 1977 is three years.

"One reason I stayed at Wesleyan for nine years is because I built the program," head women's basketball coach Laura Ferrell said. "I also made a commitment to the program. Nine years ago, the athletic department wanted both women's and men's soccer program to be successful and they chose successful people with winning records," she said.

Ferrell said, "Since my son Walston was born, I was trying to get out of coaching in general. Now that Tony left, it is time for me to leave, too." She says, "We are looking forward to a new lifestyle, and this is the perfect opportunity to give us the new life style we are looking for."

"Walston will be going to a public school, and I will most likely be teaching elementary physical education. He will be coming home at the same time I will, and this will put us on the same time schedule," Ferrell says. "This is what our family is looking for."

The average length of service of a men's basketball coach since 1964 is four years.

"I came here to start the program in 1964," Don Scalf, assistant professor of physical education said. "I kept feeling that we were going to win over the five years I coached. I thought it was going to become a winning program over the five years I coached, but it did not. Now it's a super program," he said.

"I really enjoy it at

Wesleyan," head coach Bill Chambers said. "I like small college coaching and I would like to stay and grow with the program," he said.

The average service of a men's baseball coach since 1961 is four years, six months.

The first baseball coach was Raymond Bauer. He coached from 1961 to 1973, but did not have a winning record throughout his coaching career.

"In 1973, I was asked by the president at that time to become the academic dean and I accepted it," Bauer said.

In 1979, Tony Guzzo took over Raymond Bauer's spot as head coach. Guzzo stayed until 1982 and had a winning record in three out of his four years.

Guzzo moved up the ladder and is now the head baseball coach at Virginia Commonwealth University.

Athletic director Mike Fox has been the baseball coach since 1982, with a winning record every year.

"One reason I'm staying at Wesleyan is because I enjoy coaching at this level," Fox said.

"I think that every player represents the true student-athlete at Wesleyan," Fox said. "I know that the players are here because they want to be here. They are not tied here," he said.

The average length of service of a tennis coach is two years since 1963.

Head tennis coach Mike Fillietaz said, "I coached for two years because I loved the sport. I

had a winning program in 1975 and 1976 and my main goal was to win."

Corky Maynor, head tennis coach in 1988, worked as a part-time coach at Wesleyan as did Mike Long in 1977 and John Joyce in 1981.

According to Don Scalf, the athletic department had trouble with part-time coaches.

"It was quite evident that the success of the tennis program was low because there was not enough contact between the coaches and the players," he said. "This just did not work out."

Leo Bishop, head tennis coach from 1978 to 1980, is currently an Associate Professor of Mathematics and Computer Sciences at Wesleyan College.

Bishop said, "I stayed three years at Wesleyan because I loved the game and because of the good relationships I had with my players. I also had a winning record all three years," he said.

"I quit the coaching because I ran out of time. Coaching interfered with my teaching. I adjusted my time by dropping tennis," Bishop said.

Why do most athletic coaches quit or resign from coaching? And where do they go after coaching?

From 1961 until now, there have been 32 athletic coaches, including current coaches at Wesleyan. Eleven coaches (34 percent) resigned because they were offered a better job and a higher salary.

The other 21 coaches (68 percent) resigned for different reasons, ranging from retirement or personal problems.

"I resigned in 1977 because I wanted to become an Ordained Minister at Duke Divinity School," Al Horne said.

Mike Fillietaz, currently a Northeastern sales manager, resigned because of "lack of support in the tennis program. I had a winning program in both of my years. In 1976, we had the chance to go to the NCAA tournament. We could not go though, because our program was not given any money."

"The way I felt after this happened is probably the way the men's soccer team felt last year after losing against Emory College in the NCAA tournament," Fillietaz says.

Roland Paiva says, "The number one reason why I left is because I was offered a higher salary as the director of the Capital

Area Soccer League (CASL) in Raleigh.

"It was an opportunity for me to advance," Paiva says. "As far as career wise, it was a good move. Financially, I'm just much better off now than I was as a women's soccer coach," he says.

"I was offered a job as an assistant basketball coach at Winthrop College in South Carolina, division one," Jeff Reynolds said. "It was an opportunity I couldn't pass up. This move would better help me achieve my career goals. Financially, it was more lucrative for my wife and me to make the move," he said.

According to Raymond Bauer, soccer coach Rick Helms resigned because he was having personal problems in his life and in the athletic department.

"He had to get out," said Bauer. "He was certified as a trainer at Northern Nash High School in Nash County right after resigning from Wesleyan."

According to athletic director Don Scalf, Bill Garlow, baseball coach in 1972 and 1973 at Wesleyan, was not rehired in 1974 because of unsatisfactory coaching practices.

"I resigned because I was offered a golden opportunity career wise that I could not turn down," said Tony Ferrell. "I felt a need for a change, and my decision on leaving was well thought out. I'm looking forward to this new job," he said.

Are the athletic coaches getting paid enough at Wesleyan for their hard work and effort?

"I don't think a coach comes to Wesleyan because he or she wants to make a lot of money," Marshall Brooks, Dean of Academics said.

"They come here because they want to pursue career goals, and I really do not think money is a primary issue at all. Wesleyan is not known for being competitive with their salaries," Brooks says. "Salary is not the bottom line of getting coaches to Wesleyan."

Brooks says, "What brings the coaches to Wesleyan is the opportunity we offer them, such as to be a part of a successful athletic program here."

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