

Fran Struble Hall of Fame



Fran Struble was a farm girl who grew up to become a farmer's wife. She knew about harvesting crops and raising livestock. Fran could also grow a high school girls volleyball program. After 38 seasons she produced 929 victories as coach for the Carlinville Cavaliers, and is now being inducted into the Illinois Volleyball Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

Struble, who retired from coaching after taking the Cavaliers to a Class 2A super-sectional in 2017, ranks No. 10 all-time in Illinois in victories with her 929-279 record. After taking over at Carlinville in 1980. Struble's Cavies won 22 regional and nine sectional titles, with a third-place finish in the 2A state tourney from a 36-4 team in 2009.

Carlinville also won 24 South Central Conference championships -- including a 104-match league winning streak from 1993-2004 -- and 24 Macoupin County Tournament titles under Struble.

Struble never had a losing season in 38 years at Carlinville and closed with a streak of 30 consecutive 20-win seasons. That run included 12 seasons with 30 or more wins. With her daughter Jami (Struble) Parker at 500-plus wins and counting as coach at Edwardsville and now Troy Triad, Struble and Parker are the winningest mother-daughter coaching combination in state history.

"Growing up with Fran Struble being the coach," said Kaitie Hammann, a former Carlinville player under Struble who replaced her as Carlinville coach in 2018, "before I even played, you knew how much she did for girls sports in Carlinville. When I got in seventh grade and got to play for her and play all the way through high school, you really don't understand what she's taught you about life until you're away from high school and you are on your own."