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NORTH FOOTBALL COACH MIKE WILSON ONE WIN AWAY FROM 100TH VICTORY

[Evansville, IN, August 28, 2007]--Coach Mike Wilson looks to become only the 11th coach in Evansville history to record 100 victories at a single school when North High School takes on the Castle Knights this coming Friday night. Reaching this milestone will add to an already impressive resume that Wilson has compiled during 19 seasons at the Evansville high school including five Sectional Titles along with Semi-State, Regional, Conference, and City Championships.

Wilson coached 9 seasons for Olney (IL) High School and recorded 52 victories at the southern Illinois school before coming to Evansville North in 1989. His career coaching record stands at 151-133.

In the history of Evansville High School football, only ten men have won 100 or more games at a single city school. Wilson is set to become the second head coach to reach that number at North High School. Morris Riley, North's first coach, compiled 103 wins at the school between 1957 and 1975.

During his tenure, Wilson has coached 63 players who have been selected All-City by the Evansville Courier & Press and three of those players have been chosen "Metro Player Of The Year". His best season to date occurred in 1995 when he coached North to a 13-1 record and an appearance in the Indiana Class 5A championship game.

Wilson assumed the head coaching job in 1989 and took over a program that had won a meager six games in the previous seven seasons combined. He turned the program around in only his second season by recording the school's first winning record in twelve years. In only his fourth season at North, the school won its first ever Sectional Title. *"My first goal when I came to North,"* says Coach Wilson, *"was restore pride within the school. When I first arrived the football players did not want to wear their football jerseys to school on Fridays. The second step was to make us competitive within the SIAC conference. The third goal was to make us competitive in regional competition in the state tournament."*

Throughout his career at North High, Coach Wilson has had the support of Assistant Coach Marty Ohlsen on the sidelines beside him. Ohlsen started out as the offensive line coach in 1989 and was elevated to Defensive Coordinator in 1998.

Asked if he has a specific target for games won or years as a head coach, Wilson said, *"I have no specific target for the number of years I want to coach. I think if I realize that I am no longer relating to the kids or enjoying my work, it will be time to get out. I am still thoroughly enjoying my job at this point."*

Wilson's played college football from 1971 to 1974 for Eastern Illinois University where he started at linebacker. He played high school football for Granite City (IL) High School in just across the river from St. Louis, MO. He teaches Physical Education at North.

Wilson was preceded in the elite fraternity of 100 win coaches last season by Mike Owen of Central High School and Mike Goebel of Mater Dei High School. Herman Byers of Reitz (1942-1968) leads all city coaches with 188 wins.

LISTING OF EVANSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL COACHES WITH 100 WINS AT ONE SCHOOL

<u>Rank</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>First</u>	<u>Last</u>	<u>Begin</u>	<u>Final</u>	<u>Win</u>	<u>Loss</u>	<u>Tie</u>
1st	Reitz	Herman	Byers	1942	1968	188	52	15
2nd	Central	Daniel	Howard	1934	1965	164	115	15
3rd	Harrison	Mitch	Marsch	1978	1999	140	91	
4th	Memorial	Gene	Logel	1956	1979	138	82	8
5th	Mater Dei	Frank	Will	1975	1996	133	106	
6th	Memorial	Ralph	Weinzapfel	1980	1999	126	94	
7th	Bosse	Archie	Owen	1961	1983	111	99	13
8th	Mater Dei	Mike	Goebel	1997	present	105	26	
9th	North	Morris	Riley	1957	1975	103	72	4
10th	Central	Mike	Owen	1986	2006	102	113	
11th	North	Mike	Wilson	1989	present	99	100	

Records courtesy of www.almanacsports.com – host of the official website of Southern Indiana Athletic Conference.

Contact:
 Timothy Grimm
 North High Football Booster Club
www.nhsfootball.org
 (812) 204-3385
timothygrimm@att.com