

COACH CRAIG KOLEK MAKES NCAA HISTORY

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The University community celebrated Coach Kolek's achievement on October 24, 2017.

Men's and Women's Volleyball Head Coach and Associate Athletic Director Craig Kolek reached a career milestone this fall by entering the 400-400 Club. He is the first coach in NCAA volleyball history to win 400 games in both men's and women's volleyball across all three NCAA divisions.

His record on the men's side also ranks him as the second winningest coach in NCAA Division III history and ninth all-time in NCAA Men's Volleyball Division I, II and III history.



Photos by Jodie Andruskevich

in which his men's team captured the NECVA Championship, Kolek was selected as the AVCA National Coach of the Year.

The Rivier community extends its thanks and congratulations to Coach Kolek on his remarkable achievement.

"Looking back at all the years, I can say the sacrifice to coach both teams was at times overwhelming, and I invested a huge chunk of my life in Rivier to get the program where I wanted it to be, but I also know how much my family and friends sacrificed as well. There is no way this would have happened without the support of my parents, my brother and his family, my athletic director, and, of course, my wife." ■

Coach Kolek is a Rivier institution, coaching Raider teams for more than 20 years. "I'm obviously very humbled about this milestone, but there is also an enormous sense of pride and satisfaction," says Coach Kolek. "There are not many coaches in the country that have coached two separate teams together for any sport for this amount of time."

Over the course of his career, he has captured six Great Northeast Athletic Conference women's volleyball championships and seven GNAC men's volleyball championships. He has coached the men's program to the NCAA Division III Final Four and was ranked #1 overall in the AVCA Coaches Poll in 2014. After the 2006 season,