The Dallas Baptist Lady Patriot Volleyball Team set out in 2011 looking to improve from the year before. They did that and more as they played their way to a third place finish in the Heartland Conference and advanced all the way to the final day of the NCCAA National Tournament. **Krystal Wunderlich** was named to the First Team All-Heartland Conference, and four players were named to the NCCAA All-Region Team as **Wunderlich** was joined by **Kristin Secord, Cameron Hartson and Tyler Bradsher**.

After finishing conference play tied for third with an 8-6 record, the Lady Patriots were selected for the NCCAA Regional in McPherson, Kansas. DBU swept through the competition, winning the championship game of the Regional in three games over Southwest Assemblies of God University. This allowed them the opportunity to travel to Kissimmee, Florida to compete in the NCCAA National Tournament. There, the Lady Patriots were defeated by tournament runner-up Trinity Christian College and by Palm Beach Atlantic University to open the tournament, but they rebounded the following day to sweep Asbury University and Southern Wesleyan University in a combined six games.

“This year was a long season filled with multiple injuries, but we ended strong with our returners able to play a lot of points,” said Head Coach **Cathy Ray Kokel**. "Our regional run was very successful and put us undefeated in NCCAA play heading into the National Tournament. The NCCAA National Tournament put us up against some of the best competition we have seen all year, and I am so thankful our team was able to play such great teams and have that kind of experience under their belt. We played hard and played well, and I look forward to the spring and next season with those who will be returning.”

During the year, the Lady Patriots won two of three matches in Alaska at the 2011 Nanook Classic in Fairbanks and also won three of four matches at the Lady Patriot Classic held on campus. Their 10-3 record at home is one of the highest marks in program history while their 22 wins on the season are the most since 2008.

“We are excited about the future,” said **Kokel**. “We will return strong next season and will add talent to that core that will hopefully allow us to climb the rankings in the conference and to push even farther into the postseason in 2012.”