

2007 EMPORIA STATE VOLLEYBALL GAME NOTES



2007 SCHEDULE

Aug. 24-25 MSSU Tournament

Aug. 24 Missouri-St. Louis W, 3-2

Aug. 24 Drury W, 3-0

Aug. 25 Central Oklahoma W, 3-2

Aug. 25 Angelo State W, 3-0

Aug. 31-Sep. 1 MWSU Ramda Inn Inv.

Aug. 31 Indianapolis L, 1-3

Aug. 31 South Dakota L, 2-3

Sep. 1 Ouachita Baptist W, 3-0

Sep. 1 Cameron W, 3-0

Sep. 4 *Central Missouri L, 1-3

Sep. 7-8 UWF Argonaut Regional

Sep. 7 Alabama-Huntsville W, 3-0

Sep. 7 West Florida L, 0-3

Sep. 8 North Alabama W, 3-1

Sep. 8 Southern Arkansas W, 3-1

Sep. 12 *Missouri Southern W, 3-0

Sep. 15 *at Fort Hays State 2:00 p.m.

Sep. 18 at Rockhurst 7:00 p.m.

Sep. 22 *Pittsburg State 1:00 p.m.

Sep. 26 *at Washburn 7:00 p.m.

Sep. 29 *at Missouri Western 7:00 p.m.

Oct. 2 *Southwest Baptist 7:00 p.m.

Oct. 5-6 Washburn Lady Blues Fall Classic

Oct. 5 Dallas Baptist 10:00 a.m.

Oct. 5 West Texas A & M 4:00 p.m.

Oct. 6 Okla. Panhandle State 11:30 a.m.

Oct. 6 Abilene Christian 2:00 p.m.

Oct. 9 *at Northwest Missouri 7:00 p.m.

Oct. 16 Newman 7:00 p.m.

Oct. 19 *at Missouri Southern 7:00 p.m.

Oct. 20 *at Pittsburg State 1:00 p.m.

Oct. 25 *Fort Hays State 7:00 p.m.

Oct. 30 *Washburn 7:00 p.m.

Nov. 2 *at Truman 7:00 p.m.

Nov. 3 %vs. Missouri-Rolla 3:00 p.m.

Nov. 6-10 MIAA Tournament TBA

Nov. 15-18 South Central Regional TBA

Nov. 29-Dec. 1 NCAA Elite Eight TBA

*= MIAA Conference Match

Bold= Home Game

%= Played in Kirksville, Mo.

All home games played at White Auditorium.

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Postgame policy: Coach Xu and selected players will be available following each home game. Please give all requests to an ESU Media Relations representative

Match #9
Emporia State (10-4, 1-1 MIAA)
at Fort Hays State (8-6, 0-1 MIAA)
Saturday, Sept. 5 • 2 p.m. • Gross Coliseum • Hays, Kan.
Series Record: ESU leads 38-25 **Last Meeting:** ESU 3, at FHSU 0 (10/18/06)
Up Next: Sept. 18 at #20 Rockhurst • 7 p.m. • Mason-Haplin Fieldhouse • Kansas City, Mo.

BACK ON THE ROAD AGAIN
The Hornets will play 14 of their first 16 games on the road this season. They only have seven home dates all season. They are 9-3 away from home this season as they head to Hays to take on Fort Hays State.

LAST TIME OUT
Emporia State hit .305 on the night as they swept Missouri Southern 30-20, 30-27 and 30-25 in MIAA volleyball action Sept. 12 at White Auditorium. Mary Walczuk hit .481 with 13 kills while Arica Shepard had 13 kills on .312 hitting to pace the Hornets. Ting Liu dished 41 assists and had six kills on .556 hitting with 13 digs. In game one the Hornets scored six straight points with Liu serving. Kristin Fletcher had four solo blocks and one assist block on the evening.

THE COACHES
Bing Xu is 49-28 in his third year as head coach at Emporia State. Xu's start of the 2005 season was the best of any ESU volleyball coach in school history and his 13 wins to start his career were the most by the coach of any ESU athletic team since joining the NCAA in 1991. **Steve Smith** is 27-46 in his third season with the Lions.

SCOUTING THE TIGERS
The Tigers are 8-6 on the season and 1-1 on their home floor. They are led by Kellyn Thaut who has 245 kills on the season averaging 4.80 per game. Sarah Schinstock leads the team in blocks with 57 on the season. The primary setter for the Tigers is Whitney Hoffman who has 599 assists averaging 11.75 per game.

THE SERIES
This will be the 64th meeting between the two teams. The Hornets lead the series 38-25. The Hornets won both meetings last season, and have won three straight and seven of the last ten match-ups. Fort Hays last win came during the 2004 season.

ALL-COMERS
Twelve of ESU's 16 losses last season were to teams ranked in the final regular season AVCA Top 25. The Hornets were 2-12 on the season against top 25 teams and the 14 matches against ranked opponents are the most by an MIAA school this season. This season the Hornets are 1-1 against teams in the AVCA Top 25.

UP NEXT
ESU will face three straight ranked opponents starting with current #20 Rockhurst on Sept. 18 in Kansas City, Mo. They will then come home to face current #12 Pittsburg State at 1 p.m. on Sept. 22 in White Auditorium. They will then travel to #8 Washburn on Sept. 26 for a 7 p.m. game in Topeka.

Probable Lineup

No.	Name	Pos.	Yr.	K	K/G	Pct.	A	D	BS	BA	Hometown
Starters											
1	Mary Walczuk	OH	So.	120	2.73	.237	11	20	0	21	Leawood, Kan.
7	Kristin Fletcher	MH	Fr.	45	0.88	.147	5	17	8	33	Lee's Summit, Mo.
4	Megan Koster	OH	Jr.	142	2.73	.237	6	150	3	17	Clay Center, Kan.
5	Arica Shepard	OH	So.	217	4.34	.254	5	191	1	10	Rossville, Kan.
6	Bree Boner	MH	Fr.	145	2.79	.259	6	46	15	45	Omaha, Neb.
16	Ting Liu	S	Fr.	57	1.10	.174	627	112	4	21	Beijing, China
3	Amy Byfield	L	So.	0	0.00	-.333	20	255	0	0	Mission, Kan.
Head Coach: Bing Xu (49-28, 2nd year) Assistant: Ping Wang Graduate Asst: Kim Edwards											



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HITTING THE TRAIL

The Hornets have been able to out hit opponents .236 to .199 this season, netting 789 kills to their opponents 699. They currently rank fourth in the MIAA in hitting percentage and in kills per game. Setter Ting Liu has also helped the Hornets out set their opponents 706 to 604. The Hornets were also able to out block their opponents by a sum of 111 to 82.5.

SERVING IT UP

The Hornets have been hot serving the ball in early action. The ESU squad has a serve percentage of .938 on the season. The Hornets are also out serving their opponents when it comes to aces netting 85 while teams only have 59 against them.

SHEPARD'S BOOK

Arica Shepard (So. • Rossville, Kan.) is currently leading the Hornets in kills with 217 and kills per game with 4.34. She currently second in the MIAA in kills per game and is third in total points per game with 4.62. She also set a career high for kills on the season when she had 24 against Missouri-St. Louis on Aug. 24. She was named along with Ting Liu to the All-Tournament Team at the West Florida invitational. She has appeared in all 14 matches for the Hornets and finished and has 191 digs. She was named the MIAA Freshman of the Year for the 2006 season as well as being named third team All-MIAA.

IN THE LIUP

Ting Liu (Fr. • Beijing, China) leads the Hornets in assists with 627 which gives her an average of 12.06 assists per game, good for second in the MIAA. She also has the match high for assists in the MIAA after getting 61 against Central Oklahoma on August 25. She was named to the All-Tournament team at the West Florida Invitational. She had six service aces in the Hornets 3-0 victory over Drury at the MSSU Invite. She is currently leading ESU in that category with 20 on the season and is serving at a .963 rate.

BRIANNE CAN

Brianne Boner (Fr. • Omaha, Neb.) leads the team in total blocks bringing in 60, 15 solo and 45 assist blocks. This ranks her fourth in the MIAA in blocks per game. She also has the MIAA high for blocks in a single match after blocking the ball 11 times as ESU took on Central Oklahoma on August 25. She is tied for second on the squad in kills with 145 on the year. Her average per game of 2.79 makes her second on the team while her .259 hitting percentage tops among Hornets seeing action in every game this season. She is also second on the squad in service aces with 18 on the season.

FROM THE WINDOWS TO THE WALCZUK

Mary Walczuk (So. • Leawood, Kan.) hit .481 with 13 kills against Missouri Southern on Sept. 12. She set a new career high for kills with 16 in matches against Missouri-St. Louis and Central Oklahoma in the first weekend of the season. She also is tied for third on the team with 2.73 kills per game. She is fourth on the team in total kills with 120 on the season and is fourth in points per game averaging 2.97.

2007 HORNET TEAM NUMBERS

Match Record -----	10-4
MIAA Record -----	1-1
Streak -----	won 3
Games Won -----	34
Games Lost -----	18
Kills Per Game -----	15.2
Opponent Kills Per Game -----	13.4
Attack Percentage -----	.236
Opponent Attack Percentage -----	.199

2007 HORNET TEAM LEADERS

Kills -----	Arica Shepard	217
Kills Per Game -----	Arica Shepard	4.34
Attack Pct -----	Brittney Miller *	.323
Assists -----	Ting Liu	627
Assists Per Game -----	Ting Liu	12.06
Service Aces -----	Ting Liu	20
SA Per Game -----	Ting Liu	0.38
Digs -----	Amy Byfield	255
Digs Per Game -----	Amy Byfield	4.90
Solo Blocks -----	Brianne Boner	15
Block Assists -----	Brianne Boner	45
Total Blocks -----	Brianne Boner	60

* Minimum of 4.0 attacks per game.

2007 MIAA VOLLEYBALL STANDINGS

(as of 9-13)

	MIAA					Overall		
	W	L	GW	GL	Pct.	W	L	Pct.
West Division								
WU (8)	1	0	3	0	1.000	14	1	.933
PSU (12)	1	0	3	0	1.000	13	1	.929
ESU	1	1	4	3	.500	10	4	.714
MSSU	0	1	0	3	.000	9	5	.643
FHSU	0	1	0	3	.000	8	6	.571

East Division

UCM (6)	1	0	3	1	1.000	14	1	.933
TSU (10)	1	0	3	0	1.000	10	3	.769
NWMSU	1	0	3	0	1.000	7	6	.538
MWSU	0	1	0	3	.000	5	9	.357
SBU	0	2	0	6	.000	5	9	.357

2006 AVCA/CSTV D-II Top 25 ranking in parenthesis

2006 NCAA Division II South Central Regional Rankings (final regular season)

As of 11/1/06

1. Truman	32-1	18-0
2. North Alabama	27-5	22-2
3. Washburn	25-7	17-5
4. Pittsburg State	21-10	16-8
5. Emporia State	15-15	10-8
6. Missouri Southern	23-10	15-8
7. West Florida	18-13	13-7
8. Missouri Western	16-14	12-11
9. Harding	22-8	16-7
10. Ouachita Baptist	15-13	9-10



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FOR THE LOVE OF THE GAME

Megan Koster (Jr. • Clay Center, Kan.) is in her first year with the Hornets after transferring from Hutchinson Community College. She is third on the team in kills with 142 on the season averaging 2.73 per game. She had a .562 hitting percentage on the season hitting for .562 against Drury on August 24, while coming up with 10 kills. She also played well on the return bringing the in third highest number of digs on the season with 150.

CHASING AMY

Amy Byfield (So. • Mission, Kan.) set a new career high for digs from Libero position pulling up 27 digs in the Hornets match with Central Oklahoma on Aug. 25. She also tied a career high for aces in the Hornets season opening match with Missouri-St. Louis when she had three. She is currently fifth in the MIAA in digs per game and has 255 digs on the season.

FLETCHER LIVES

Kristin Fletcher (Jr. • Lee's Summit, Mo.) is currently second on the team in blocks with 41 on the season. She set a new career high for hitting percentage when the Hornets took on Angelo State on Aug. 25. She connected for five kills in seven total attempts and finished the match with a .714 hitting percentage.

MILLER TIME

Brittney Miller (Fr. • Paola, Kan.) has now seen playing time in 22 games for the Hornets on the season and has 60 kills. She is averaging about 5.0 attacks per game and has the Hornets current high hitting percentage at .323. She is also third on the team in blocks per game with 0.55 per contest.

THE COMEBACK

The Hornets were able to come back from two matches down against Missouri-St. Louis in the opening round of the Missouri Southern Invitational on Friday, August 24. The Hornets trailed 2-0 before winning all three games for the comeback win marking the first time the Hornets have completed that feat in this century. The Hornets came up with two five match wins while at Missouri Southern after only winning two five match games all season in five tries. They are now 2-1 in five game matches on this season.

YOUTH MOVEMENT

The Hornets only feature three upperclassman and have five sophomores or Freshman who are seeing significant playing time on the season. The Hornets had the MIAA Freshman of the Year last season in Outside Hitter Arica Shepard.

THE SCHEDULE

The Hornets will play seven matches against teams in the AVCA Preseason Top 25 with three more matches against teams receiving votes in the preseason poll. ESU will face their third ranked opponent of the season when they take on #20 Rockhurst at 7 p.m. on Sept. 18.

CSTV/AVCA Top 25

Sept. 10 Poll

No.	Team	Pts.	Rec.	LW
1	Cal State San Bernardino (25)	884	10-0	1
2	Tampa (6)	859	10-1	2
3	Concordia-St. Paul (5)	838	11-0	3
4	Minnesota Duluth	799	11-1	4
5	Florida Southern	753	9-1	5
6	Central Missouri	707	13-1	T-7
7	Southwest Minnesota State	621	7-2	11
8	Washburn	584	13-1	12
9	Ashland	570	10-1	10
10	Truman	544	9-3	6
11	Grand Valley State	534	10-2	13
12	Pittsburg State	424	13-1	18
13	Augustana (S.D.)	418	10-2	17
14	Nebraska-Omaha	406	7-2	16
15	SIU Edwardsville	392	8-3	14
16	UC San Diego	370	7-3	9
17	Hillsdale	289	9-4	T-7
18	Cal State L.A.	280	6-3	T-20
19	Northern Kentucky	246	12-2	24
20	Rockhurst	235	9-1	T-20
21	West Texas A&M	224	8-5	15
22	Chico State	214	8-3	19
23	Minnesota State	203	10-1	T-25
24	Nebraska-Kearney	103	10-2	T-25
25	Northwood (MI)	70	12-0	NR

Others Receiving Votes: Wayne State (Neb.) 47; South Dakota 17, Cal Poly Pomona 13, Northwest Nazarene 9, West Florida 9, Findlay 8, North Alabama 8, BYU Hawai'i 5.

Dropped Out: North Alabama (22); Wayne State (23)

Next Poll: September 17th

MIAA Teams in bold ESU Opponents in italics

ESU Attendance Since 2001

Year	Matches	Total	Avg.
2006	8	1867	233
2005	9	3338	371
2004	10	2162	216
2003	15	2252	150
2002	11	2084	189
2001	10	1829	183

The Hornets were ranked #23 in the nation in attendance in 2006.