

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	#5 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	#22 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*	W, 3-0
Sep. 18	at #23 Rockhurst	W, 3-0
Sep. 22	#12 Pittsburg State *	W, 3-0
Sep. 26	at #7 Washburn*	L, 2-3
Sep. 29	at Missouri Western*	W, 3-1
Oct. 2	Southwest Baptist *	W, 3-0

Oct. 5-6 Washburn Lady Blues Fall Classic		
Oct. 5	Dallas Baptist	W, 3-1
Oct. 5	#17 West Texas A & M	L, 1-3
Oct. 6	Okla. Panhandle State	W, 3-0
Oct. 6	Abilene Christian	W, 3-1
Oct. 9	at Northwest Missouri*	W, 3-2
Oct. 16	Newman	W, 3-0
Oct. 19	at Missouri Southern*	7:00 p.m.
Oct. 20	at #15 Pittsburg State*	1:00 p.m.
Oct. 25	Fort Hays State *	7:00 p.m.
Oct. 30	#5 Washburn *	7:00 p.m.
Nov. 2	at #6 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 #27 & 28

#21 Emporia State (19-6, 6-2 MIAA) at Missouri Southern (13-13, 1-8) & #15 Pittsburg St. (23-5, 6-3)
Friday, Oct. 19 • 7 p.m. • Robert Ellis Young Gymnasium • Joplin, Mo.
Series Record: ESU leads 31-29 **Last Meeting:** at ESU 3, MSSU 0 (9/12/07)
Saturday, Oct. 20 • 1p.m. • John Lance Arena • Pittsburg, Kan.
Series Record: ESU leads 58-16 **Last Meeting:** at ESU 3, PSU 0 (9/22/07)

RANKED MATCH-UP

The #21 Hornets will travel to Joplin, Mo. to take on Missouri Southern at 7 p.m. on Oct. 19. They will then face #15 Pittsburg State the following day, Oct. 20, at 1 p.m. in Pittsburg, Kan. The Hornets will play three of their last six matches against ranked opponents.

LAST TIME OUT

The #21 Emporia State volleyball team swept Newman to earn their 20th win of the season. ESU hit .430 as a team while holding the Jets to a .009 hitting percentage. ESU was led in kills by Arica Shepard who had 16 kills to go along with 13 digs. Brianne Boner had 12 kills and finished the night with seven blocks. Ting Liu had 41 assists in the three games to go along with five kills. Boner also led the way in hitting percentage connecting on .632 of her attacks.

THE COACHES

Bing Xu is 59-30 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.

Chris Willis is 61-65 in his fourth season with the Lions.

Ibraheem Suberu is 150-145 in his ninth season with the Gorillas.

SCOUTING MSSU/PSU

The MSSU Lions are 13-13 on the season and 1-8 in the MIAA. They are led by Sarah Hoffmeister who is averaging 3.54 kills per game.

The PSU Gorillas are 23-5 on the season and 6-3 in the MIAA. They are led by Sammie Williams who is averaging 3.90 kills per game.

LAST TIME VS. MSSU/PSU

ESU hit .305 in a 3-0 home victory over MSSU on Sept. 12. Mary Walczuk hit .481 with 13 kills and Arica Shepard added 13 kills as well.

ESU hit .333 as a team to knock off then #12 Pittsburg State on Sept. 22. Megan Koster led the Hornet attack with 18 kills and 20 digs. Ting Liu had 56 assists in the match for the Hornets.

THE SERIES

ESU leads MSSU 31-29 overall and leads the season series 1-0.

ESU leads Pittsburg State 58-16 overall and holds a 1-0 advantage this season.

UP NEXT

ESU will be in Emporia for their next to last home match. They will take on Fort Hays State on Oct. 25 with first serve set for 7 p.m. Following that match #5 Washburn will come to town for the Hornets final home date on Oct. 30 at 7 p.m.

Probable Lineup

No.	Name	Pos.	Yr.	K	K/G	Pct.	A	D	BS	BA	Hometown
Starters											
1	Mary Walczuk	OH	So.	230	2.77	.293	16	33	1	31	Leawood, Kan.
7	Kristin Fletcher	MH	Jr.	76	1.00	.159	7	17	10	51	Lee's Summit, Mo.
4	Megan Koster	OH	Jr.	291	3.03	.244	23	267	4	44	Clay Center, Kan.
5	Arica Shepard	OH	So.	418	4.45	.265	17	340	2	21	Rossville, Kan.
6	Bree Boner	MH	Fr.	270	2.84	.302	14	63	24	84	Omaha, Neb.
16	Ting Liu	S	Fr.	99	1.03	.216	1254	210	9	41	Beijing, China
3	Amy Byfield	L	So.	2	0.02	-.067	34	475	0	0	Mission, Kan.

Head Coach: Bing Xu (59-30, 2nd year) **Assistant:** Ping Wang **Graduate Asst:** Kim Edwards



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AND NOW FOR THE NATIONAL NEWS

Emporia State made it's debut in the CSTV/AVCA NCAA Division II Top 25 on Sept. 24 after upset wins over then #23 Rockhurst and then #12 Pittsburg State. Megan Koster became the first Hornet to earn Sports Impact/AVCA NCAA Division II National Player of the Week honors as she led ESU to the two wins over nationally ranked foes. The Hornets are still ranked 21st in the nation as of the Oct. 15 poll. The Hornets are also ranked fifth in the most recently released regional standings.

ALL-COMERS

The Hornets are currently 3-3 against teams that were ranked at the time this season and have three matches remaining against teams currently in the AVCA Top 25. Their six losses all come to teams who are either in the top 25, or are receiving votes. The combined record of those teams is 136-21 good a .866 winning percentage.

HITTING THE TRAIL

The Hornets are ranked third in the latest MIAA with a .253 hitting percentage and are third in the league at 15.99 kills per game. Five Hornets are averaging at least 2.64 kills per game. ESU is third in the MIAA with 14.56 assists per game.

SERVING IT UP

The Hornets have been hot serving the ball in this season. The ESU squad has a serve percentage of .943 on the season. The Hornets have connected on 146 service aces this season, an average of 1.52 per game.

SHEPARD'S BOOK

Arica Shepard (So. • Rossville, Kan.) is currently leading the Hornets in kills with 418 and kills per game with 4.45. She currently second in the MIAA in kills per game and fourth in total points per game with 4.70. 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 to the All-Tournament Team at the West Florida Argonaut Regional Crossover. She has appeared in all 24 matches for the Hornets and is averaging 3.62 digs per game. She is third among Hornets who have played in every match with .265 hitting percentage. She was named the MIAA Freshman of the Year for the 2006 season as well as being named honorable mention All-MIAA.

FOR THE LOVE OF THE GAME

Megan Koster (Jr. • Clay Center, Kan.) was named the Sports Impact/AVCA National Player of the Week on Sept. 24 after leading ESU to a pair of wins over nationally ranked opponents. During the week she hit .348 while averaging 5.17 kills, 5.0 digs per game and 5.67 points. She in her first year with the Hornets after transferring from Hutchinson Community College. She is second on the team in kills with 291 on the season, an average of 3.03 per game. Her highest hitting percentage for a match on the season was a .562 effort against Drury on August 24, while coming up with 10 kills. She also played well on the return bringing in the third highest number of digs on the season with 267 an average of 2.78 digs per game.

2007 HORNET TEAM NUMBERS

Match Record -----	20-6
MIAA Record -----	6-2
Streak -----	won 4
Games Won -----	67
Games Lost -----	29
Kills Per Game -----	16.1
Opponent Kills Per Game -----	13.4
Attack Percentage -----	.258
Opponent Attack Percentage -----	.181

2007 HORNET TEAM LEADERS

Kills -----	Arica Shepard	418
Kills Per Game -----	Arica Shepard	4.45
Attack Pct -----	Brianne Boner	.302
Assists -----	Ting Liu	1254
Assists Per Game -----	Ting Liu	13.06
Service Aces -----	Ting Liu	44
SA Per Game -----	Ting Liu	0.46
Digs -----	Amy Byfield	475
Digs Per Game -----	Amy Byfield	5.00
Solo Blocks -----	Brianne Boner	24
Block Assists -----	Brianne Boner	84
Total Blocks -----	Brianne Boner	108

2007 MIAA VOLLEYBALL STANDINGS

(as of 10-17)

	MIAA			Overall		
	W	L	GW GL Pct.	W	L	Pct.
West Division						
x- WU (5)	8	0	24 7 1.000	27	1	.964
x- ESU (21)	6	2	21 9 .750	20	6	.769
x- PSU (15)	6	3	22 12 .667	23	5	.821
FHSU	2	7	8 23 .222	15	12	.556
MSSU	1	8	8 25 .111	13	13	.500
East Division						
x- TSU (6)	7	1	23 6 .875	24	4	.857
x- UCM (9)	6	3	21 10 .667	25	4	.862
NWMSU	5	5	19 18 .500	16	13	.552
SBU	2	8	8 28 .200	8	19	.296
MWSU	1	7	7 23 .125	9	17	.246

x= clinched birth in MIAA Postseason Tournament
 2006 AVCA/CSTV D-II Top 25 ranking in parenthesis

2006 NCAA Division II South Central Regional Ranking

As of 10/10/07

1. Washburn	25-1	19-1
2. Truman	20-4	14-2
3. West Florida	19-2	11-2
4. Central Missouri	20-3	13-2
5. Emporia State	18-6	18-4
6. Pittsburg State	19-4	17-3
7. West Alabama	17-1	11-1
8. North Alabama	12-10	10-6
9. Henderson State	14-3	13-3
10. West Georgia	18-5	17-3



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IN THE LIUP

Ting Liu (Fr. • Beijing, China) has been named the MIAA Specialist of the Week twice in the last four weeks. She earned the honor for netting 56 assists in the Hornets 3-0 win over then #12 Pittsburg State, which is the current MIAA high for a three game match. She has ten matches with at least 50 assists this season, with a match high of 67 in ESU's 3-2 win over Northwest Missouri State. She leads the Hornets in assists with 1254 which gives her an average of 13.06 assists per game, good for second in the MIAA. Even though she is the Hornets primary setter she is averaging 1.03 kills per game with 99 kills on the season. She was named to the All-Tournament team at the West Florida Argonaut Regional Crossover. She had six service aces in the Hornets 3-0 victory over Drury at the MSSU Invitational. She is currently leading ESU in that category with 44 aces on the season and is serving at a .953 rate. She is also fourth in the MIAA in at 0.46 aces per game.

BRIANNE CAN

Brianne Boner (Fr. • Omaha, Neb.) leads the team in total blocks with 108, block assists with 84 and solo blocks with 24 on the season. She is ranked ninth in the MIAA at 1.14 blocks per game. She is also tied for the MIAA high for blocks in a single match with 11 total blocks in ESU's 3-2 win over Central Oklahoma on August 25. Ten of her blocks in that match were block assists, which ties the team single match record set by Tammy Cox in 1991. She is third on the squad in kills with 270 on the year. Her average per game of 2.84 makes her third on the team while her .302 hitting percentage ranks first among Hornets seeing action in every match this season. She is also second on the squad in service aces with 25 on the season.

FROM THE WINDOWS TO THE WALCZUK

Mary Walczuk (So. • Leawood, Kan.) set a career high with 16 kills in five game matches against Missouri-St. Louis and Central Oklahoma in the first weekend of the season. She is averaging 2.77 kills per game and is fourth on the team in total kills with 230 on the season. She is second among Hornets who have played in every match with a .293 hitting percentage.

CHASING AMY

Amy Byfield (So. • Mission, Kan.) set a career high for digs pulling up 37 in the Hornets 3-2 win over Northwest Missouri State. Her three game match high of 34 against then #12 Pittsburg State is the current MIAA high for three games. 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 seventh in the latest MIAA ranking at 5.00 digs per game and has 475 total digs.

FLETCHER LIVES

Kristin Fletcher (Jr. • Lee's Summit, Mo.) is currently second on the team in blocks with 61 on the season. She connected for five kills in seven total attempts and finished the match with a .714 hitting percentage to set a career high for hitting percentage in the Hornets 3-0 win over Angelo State. Fletcher has 76 kills on the season to go along with 1.47 points per game average.

CSTV/AVCA Top 25

Oct. 15 Poll

No.	Team	Pts.	Rec.	LW
1.	Tampa	888	19-1	1
2.	Cal State-San Bernardino	866	19-1	2
3.	Minnesota Duluth	836	21-1	3
4.	Concordia St. Paul	780	22-2	4
5.	Washburn	763	27-1	5
6.	Truman	702	24-4	6
7.	Southwest Minnesota St.	677	18-4	7
8.	Grand Valley State	662	22-2	8
9.	Central Missouri	596	24-4	9
10.	Ashland	540	20-3	12
11.	Augustana (S.D.)	464	16-6	14
12.	Minnesota State	451	15-5	13
13.	Florida Southern	446	16-6	15
14.	Hillsdale	421	19-6	10
15.	Pittsburg State	416	22-5	11
16.	<i>West Texas A & M</i>	392	22-7	16
17.	SIU-Edwardsville	362	18-5	17
18.	<i>Indianapolis</i>	330	23-1	18
19.	Chico State	227	15-6	20
20.	UC San Diego	178	15-6	23
21.	Emporia state	168	19-6	21
22.	Nebraska-Kearney	163	20-4	22
23.	Cal State L.A.	127	11-7	19
24.	<i>West Florida</i>	81	24-3	24
25.	Northern Kentucky	59	21-5	25

Others Receiving Votes: Cal Poly Pomona 32, Western Washington 27, Lewis 13, *Central Oklahoma 12*, West Alabama 6, Western Oregon 4.

Dropped Out:

Next Poll: October 8

MIAA Teams in bold ESU Opponents in italics

ESU Attendance Since 2001

Year	Matches	Total	Avg.
2007	4	1411	353
2006	8	1867	233
2005	9	3338	371
2004	10	2162	216
2003	15	2252	150
2002	11	2084	189
2001	10	1829	183

ESU was #23 nationally in attendance in 2006.



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MILLER TIME

Brittney Miller (Fr. • Paola, Kan.) had a career high 17 kills to lead the Hornets against then #7 Washburn. She has now seen playing time in 40 games for the Hornets on the season and has 111 kills, ranking her fifth on the team. In her limited action she is averaging 2.64 kills per game which is fourth on the team. She is averaging 5.6 attacks per game and has the Hornets current high hitting percentage at .341 in limited action. She is fourth on the team in blocks per game with 0.45 per contest.

SNOOKERED

Jenna Snook (So. • Topeka, Kan.) had a career high three aces in the Hornets victory over Oauchita Baptist earlier this season. Primarily a defensive specialist she has 181 digs to go along with 13 service aces as she has appeared in all 26 matches this season with one start.

SERGEANT CARTER

Hannah Carter (Jr. • Olathe, Kan.) has 37 kills and 21 blocks in eight matches, after coming back from a pre-season injury, when the Hornets took on #7 Washburn.

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.

THE SCHEDULE

The Hornets will play eight matches against teams in the AVCA Preseason Top 25 with four more matches against teams receiving votes in the current poll. The Hornets will face their next ranked opponent when they play #11 Pittsburg State on the road on October 20.

REGIONALLY SPEAKING

ESU is currently ranked fifth in the NCAA Division II South Central Regional rankings. The Hornets are joined by MIAA opponents Washburn, Truman, Central Missouri and Pittsburg State.

RECORD WATCH

Several Hornets are on pace to move into the ESU single season top fives. On her current pace Arica Shepard would take the top spot in kills per game with a 4.45 average. She needs only one more match with 20+ kills to tie for top honors in that category. Ting Liu's average of 13.06 assists per game would place her second all-time in a single season and is only 230 assists from cracking the single season top five.

ESU EXPANDED NUMBERS

.....ATTACK	
Kills	1543
Errors	566
Total Attacks	3788
Attack Pct.	258
Kills/Game	16.1
.....SET	
Assists	1406
Attempts	3128
Assist Pct.	449
Assists/Game	14.6
.....SERVE	
Aces	146
Errors	136
Serve Pct	2397
Aces/Game	1.5
.....SERVE RECEPTIONS	
Errors	102
Errors/Game	1.1
Attempts	1901
Reception Pct.	946
.....DEFENSE	
Digs	1630
Digs/Game	17.0
.....BLOCKING	
Block Solo	59
Block Assist	309
Total Blocks	213.5
Blocks Per Game	2.2
Block Errors	45

