

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 7:00 p.m.

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.

Match #9

Emporia State (9-4, 0-1 MIAA)

vs. Missouri Southern (9-4, 0-0)

Wednesday, September 12 • 7 p.m. • White Auditorium • Emporia, Kan.

Series Record: ESU leads 30-29 **Last Meeting:** ESU 3, #25 MSSU 0 (10/10/06)

Up Next: Sept. 15 at Fort Hays State • 2 p.m. • Gross Coliseum • Hays, Kan.

HOME AGAIN

The Hornets have opened the season with 10 of their first 11 matches away from White Auditorium. The Hornets will finally return home where they will face Missouri Southern at 7:00 p.m.

LAST TIME OUT

Emporia State finished up the UWF Invitational 3-1 after picking up wins over North Alabama and Southern Arkansas on the final day. The Hornets first win of the day was an upset victory over then #22 North Alabama 3-1. Arica Shepard had 21 kills in the match and was followed by freshman Brittney Miller who registered 10 kills. Ting Liu had 51 assists in the match, her third highest total of the season. In the second game of the day ESU knocked off Southern Arkansas 3-1. Shepard again led the team in kills with 18 to go along with 24 digs.

THE COACHES

Bing Xu is 48-28 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.

Chris Willis is 57-56 in his fourth season with the Lions.

SCOUTING THE LIONS

The Lions are 9-4 on the season and will be entering their first MIAA matchup. The Lions are led by Sarah Hoffmeister who has 169 kills on the season. Sarah Joles has done the majority of the setting for MSSU and has 471 assists on the season averaging 9.61 per game. At the net the squad is led by Ashley Wright who has 38 total blocks on the season.

THE SERIES

This will be the 60th time the two squads have met with ESU holding a narrow 30-29 advantage. The last time the two teams met the Hornets upset the then #25 Lions 3-0, including a 30-19 win in the final game.

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 go back on the road to face Fort Hays State at Gross Memorial Coliseum at 2:00 p.m. They will then travel to the Kansas City area for a match with currently #20 Rockhurst. The Hornets next home game will not be until they match up against current #19 Pittsburg State at White Auditorium on September 22.

Probable Lineup

| No. | Name | Pos. | Yr. | K | K/G | Pct. | A | D | BS | BA | Hometown |
|-----------------|------------------|------|-----|-----|------|-------|-----|-----|----|----|-------------------|
| Starters | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | Mary Walczuk | OH | So. | 107 | 2.61 | .212 | 10 | 19 | 0 | 20 | Leawood, Kan. |
| 7 | Kristin Fletcher | MH | Fr. | 42 | 0.88 | .146 | 4 | 17 | 4 | 32 | Lee's Summit, Mo. |
| 4 | Megan Koster | OH | Jr. | 134 | 2.73 | .240 | 6 | 142 | 3 | 16 | Clay Center, Kan. |
| 5 | Arica Shepard | OH | So. | 204 | 4.34 | .251 | 4 | 183 | 1 | 8 | Rossville, Kan. |
| 6 | Bree Boner | MH | Fr. | 134 | 2.73 | .259 | 5 | 42 | 15 | 42 | Omaha, Neb. |
| 16 | Ting Liu | S | Fr. | 51 | 1.04 | .150 | 586 | 99 | 4 | 21 | Beijing, China |
| 3 | Amy Byfield | L | So. | 0 | 0.00 | -.250 | 15 | 240 | 0 | 0 | Mission, Kan. |

Head Coach: Bing Xu (48-28, 2nd year) **Assistant:** Ping Wang **Graduate Asst:** Kim Edwards

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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



2007 EMPORIA STATE VOLLEYBALL GAME NOTES

HITTING THE TRAIL

The Hornets have been able to out hit opponents .231 to .200 season, netting 735 kills to their opponents 653. 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 655 to 560. The Hornets were also able to out block their opponents by a sum of 103 to 79.5.

SERVING IT UP

The Hornets have been hot serving the ball in early action. The ESU squad has a serve percentage of .936 on the season. The Hornets are also out serving their opponents when it comes to aces netting 75 while teams only have 54 against them.

SHEPARD'S BOOK

Arica Shepard (So. • Rossville, Kan.) is currently leading the Hornets in kills with 204 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 4.60. She also set a career high for kills on the season when she had 24 against Missouri-St. Louis on Aug. 24. She has appeared in all 13 matches for the Hornets and finished and has 180 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 586 which gives her an average of 11.96 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 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 18 on the season and is serving at a .964 rate.

BRIANNE CAN

Brianne Boner (Fr. • Omaha, Neb.) leads the team in total blocks bringing in 57, 15 solo and 32 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 ranks tied for second on the squad in kills with 134 on the year. Her average per game of 2.73 ties her for 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 16 on the season.

FROM THE WINDOWS TO THE WALCZUK

Mary Walczuk (So. • Leawood, Kan.) a new career high for kills with 16 in matches against Missouri-St. Louis and Central Oklahoma in the first weekend of the season. In the game against Central Oklahoma, she also set a career high in attempts against UCO gathering 47 for the match. She also is third on the team with 2.61 kills per game. She is fourth on the team in total kills with 107 on the season and also in points per game averaging 2.85.

2007 HORNET TEAM NUMBERS

| | |
|-----------------------------------------|-------|
| Match Record | 9-4 |
| MIAA Record | 0-1 |
| Streak | won 2 |
| Games Won | 31 |
| Games Lost | 18 |
| Kills Per Game | 15.0 |
| Opponent Kills Per Game | 13.3 |
| Attack Percentage | .231 |
| Opponent Attack Percentage | .200 |

2007 HORNET TEAM LEADERS

| | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Kills | Arica Shepard | 204 |
| Kills Per Game | Arica Shepard | 4.34 |
| Attack Pct | Brittney Miller * | .323 |
| Assists | Ting Liu | 586 |
| Assists Per Game | Ting Liu | 11.96 |
| Service Aces | Ting Liu | 18 |
| SA Per Game | Ting Liu | 0.37 |
| Digs | Amy Byfield | 246 |
| Digs Per Game | Amy Byfield | 5.02 |
| Solo Blocks | Brianne Boner | 15 |
| Block Assists | Brianne Boner | 42 |
| Total Blocks | Brianne Boner | 57 |

* Minimum of 4.0 attacks per game.

2007 MIAA VOLLEYBALL STANDINGS

(as of 9-10)

| | MIAA | | | | | Overall | | |
|----------------------|------|---|----|----|-------|---------|---|------|
| | W | L | GW | GL | Pct. | W | L | Pct. |
| West Division | | | | | | | | |
| PSU (18) | 1 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 1.000 | 13 | 1 | .929 |
| WU (12) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.000 | 13 | 1 | .929 |
| MSSU | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.000 | 9 | 4 | .692 |
| FHSU | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.000 | 8 | 5 | .615 |
| ESU | 0 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 0.000 | 9 | 4 | .692 |

East Division

| | | | | | | | | |
|----------|---|---|---|---|-------|----|---|------|
| UCM (T7) | 1 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 1.000 | 13 | 1 | .929 |
| TSU (6) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.000 | 9 | 3 | .750 |
| NWMSU | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.000 | 6 | 6 | .500 |
| MWSU | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.000 | 5 | 8 | .385 |
| SBU | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.000 | 5 | 8 | .385 |

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 |



2007 EMPORIA STATE VOLLEYBALL GAME NOTES

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 tied for second on the team in kills with 134 on the season averaging 2.73 per game. She had a .had the highest 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 142.

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 240 digs on the season.

FLETCHER LIVES

Kristin Fletcher (Jr. • Lee's Summit, Mo.) is currently second on the team in blocks with 36 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 | <i>Rockhurst</i> | 235 | 9-1 | T-20 |
| 21 | <i>West Texas A&M</i> | 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.