

# 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
<b>Sep. 4</b>	<b>#5 Central Missouri*</b>	<b>L, 1-3</b>

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

<b>Sep. 12</b>	<b>Missouri Southern*</b>	<b>W, 3-0</b>
Sep. 15	at Fort Hays State*	W, 3-0
Sep. 18	at #23 Rockhurst	W, 3-0
<b>Sep. 22</b>	<b>#12 Pittsburg State *</b>	<b>W, 3-0</b>

Sep. 26	at #7 Washburn*	L, 2-3
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	#18 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 #14 Pittsburg State*	1:00 p.m.

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

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

Nov. 2	at #8 Truman*	7:00 p.m.
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Nov. 3	%vs. Missouri-Rolla	3:00 p.m.
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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 #18

**#23 Emporia State (13-4, 3-1 MIAA)  
at Missouri Western (7-12, 1-4 MIAA)**

Saturday, Sept. 29 • 7 p.m. • Looney Fieldhouse • St. Joseph, Mo.

**Series Record:** MWSU 36-30 **Last Meeting:** MWSU 3, at ESU 2 (9/23/06)

**Up Next:** Oct. 2 vs. SBU • 7 p.m. • W L White Auditorium • Emporia, Kan.

## MISSOURI WESTWARD BOUND

The #23 Hornets will travel to Missouri Western to face the Griffons on Sept. 29 at 7 p.m. ESU is coming off three matches against ranked opponents in eight days, the Hornets went 2-1 in that stretch.

## LAST TIME OUT

The #23 Hornet volleyball team pushed the #7 Lady Blues to the limit losing the match 3-2. The Hornet attack was led by two freshman as Brittney Miller had 17 kills and hit .306 on the night and Brianne Boner hit .429 and had 16 kills and five blocks for ESU. Both Boner and Miller set career highs in kills on the evening. Also in double figure kills were Megan Koster with 13 and Arica Shepard with 11. Hannah Carter had five kills and four blocks for the Hornets in her return to action following an injury. Ting Liu had 54 assists for the Hornets and also finished the night with four kills and 16 digs while Megan Koster had the team best in the match with 17 digs.

## THE COACHES

**Bing Xu** is 52-29 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.

**Tiffany Mastin** is 7-12 in her first season with the Griffons.

## SCOUTING THE GRIFFONS

Missouri Western is 7-12 on the season and 3-5 in Looney Fieldhouse. They are led by Alyssa Berg who is averaging 3.17 kills per game. Their primary setter is Madison Benton who is averaging 5.31 assists per game. On the block they are led Audra Ridolfi who is averaging 1.27 blocks per game.

## THE SERIES

This will be the 67th meeting between the two squads with MWSU leading the overall series 36-30. ESU has won ten of the last twelve dating back to the 2001 season.

## LAST TIME THEY MET

Missouri Western won the last meeting by beating ESU 3-2 at home on Sept. 23, 2006. The Griffons won the last two games, including the last one 16-14, to knock off the Hornets in three games. Arica Shepard and Mandy Chutskoff each had 17 kills for Emporia. Amy Byfield had 48 assists for the Hornets. The Griffons were led by Alyssa Berg who had 16 kills in the match.

## UP NEXT

ESU will be at home for their next match as they take on Southwest Baptist at 7 p.m. on Oct. 2. They will then play in the Washburn Lady Blues Fall Classic Oct. 5-6 where they are slated to play Dallas Baptist, #18 West Texas A & M, Panhandle St. and Abilene Christian.

## Probable Lineup

No.	Name	Pos.	Yr.	K	K/G	Pct.	A	D	BS	BA	Hometown
<b>Starters</b>											
1	Mary Walczuk	OH	So.	148	2.69	.234	12	24	0	24	Leawood, Kan.
7	Kristin Fletcher	MH	Jr.	59	0.95	.147	5	15	9	38	Lee's Summit, Mo.
4	Megan Koster	OH	Jr.	202	3.06	.261	14	188	3	24	Clay Center, Kan.
5	Arica Shepard	OH	So.	273	4.27	.235	8	235	1	15	Rossville, Kan.
6	Bree Boner	MH	Fr.	193	2.92	.286	9	55	17	59	Omaha, Neb.
16	Ting Liu	S	Fr.	70	1.06	.183	830	145	4	28	Beijing, China
3	Amy Byfield	L	So.	1	0.02	-.154	22	315	0	0	Mission, Kan.

**Head Coach:** Bing Xu (52-29, 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

## AND NOW FOR THE NATIONAL NEWS

Emporia State made it's debut in the CSTV/AVCA NCAA Division II Top 25 this week. The Hornets come in this week ranked #23 in the national poll 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.

## ALL-COMERS

The Hornets are currently 3-2 against teams that were ranked at the time this season and have four matches remaining against teams currently ranked in the AVCA Top 25. Their five losses all come to teams who are either in the top 25, or are receiving votes. ESU's five losses are to teams with a combined record of 84-7 (.923) on the season and all five are currently ranked or receiving votes in the top 25.

## HITTING THE TRAIL

The Hornets are ranked third in the latest MIAA with a .245 hitting percentage and are fourth in the league at 15.77 kills per game. Four Hornets are averaging at least 2.69 kills per game. ESU is third in the MIAA with 14.28 assists per game.

## SERVING IT UP

The Hornets have been hot serving the ball in early action. The ESU squad has a serve percentage of .944 on the season. The Hornets have connected on 103 service aces this season, an average of 1.66 per game.

## SHEPARD'S BOOK

**Arica Shepard** (So. • Rossville, Kan.) is currently leading the Hornets in kills with 273 and kills per game with 4.27. She currently second in the MIAA in kills per game and is also second in total points per game with 4.57. 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 18 matches for the Hornets and is averaging 3.67 digs per game. She is third among Hornets who have played in every match with .235 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 202 on the season, an average of 3.06 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 188 an average of 2.85 digs per game.

## 2007 HORNET TEAM NUMBERS

<b>Match Record</b> -----	13-5
<b>MIAA Record</b> -----	3-2
<b>Streak</b> -----	lost 1
<b>Games Won</b> -----	45
<b>Games Lost</b> -----	21
<b>Kills Per Game</b> -----	15.7
<b>Opponent Kills Per Game</b> -----	13.7
<b>Attack Percentage</b> -----	.239
<b>Opponent Attack Percentage</b> -----	.193

## 2007 HORNET TEAM LEADERS

<b>Kills</b> -----	Arica Shepard	273
<b>Kills Per Game</b> -----	Arica Shepard	4.27
<b>Attack Pct</b> -----	Brianne Boner	.286
<b>Assists</b> -----	Ting Liu	830
<b>Assists Per Game</b> -----	Ting Liu	12.58
<b>Service Aces</b> -----	Ting Liu	31
<b>SA Per Game</b> -----	Ting Liu	0.47
<b>Digs</b> -----	Amy Byfield	315
<b>Digs Per Game</b> -----	Amy Byfield	4.77
<b>Solo Blocks</b> -----	Brianne Boner	17
<b>Block Assists</b> -----	Brianne Boner	59
<b>Total Blocks</b> -----	Brianne Boner	76
<b>Points Per Game</b> -----	Arica Shepard	4.56

## 2007 MIAA VOLLEYBALL STANDINGS

(as of 9-27)

	MIAA					Overall		
	W	L	GW	GL	Pct.	W	L	Pct.
<b>West Division</b>								
WU (7)	4	0	12	4	1.000	19	1	.950
ESU (23)	3	2	12	6	.600	13	5	.722
PSU (14)	2	2	8	6	.500	16	3	.842
MSSU	1	5	5	16	.167	10	9	.526
FHSU	0	3	1	9	.000	12	8	.600
<b>East Division</b>								
TSU (8)	4	0	12	1	1.000	16	3	.842
UCM (5)	5	1	16	4	.833	18	2	.900
NWMSU	2	2	5	14	.500	10	10	.500
MWSU	1	4	5	14	.200	7	12	.368
SBU	1	4	3	14	.200	7	13	.350

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

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

As of 11/1/06

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



# 2007 EMPORIA STATE VOLLEYBALL GAME NOTES

## IN THE LIUP

**Ting Liu** (Fr. • Beijing, China) has been named the MIAA Specialist of the Week in each of the last two 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 five matches with at least 50 assists this season, with a match high of 61 in ESU's 3-2 win over Central Oklahoma. She leads the Hornets in assists with 830 which gives her an average of 12.58 assists per game, good for second in the MIAA. Even though she is the Hornets primary setter she is averaging 1.06 kills per game with 70 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 31 aces on the season and is serving at a .961 rate. She also ranks fourth in the MIAA in at 0.47 aces per game.

## BRIANNE CAN

**Brianne Boner** (Fr. • Omaha, Neb.) leads the team in total blocks with 76, block assists with 59 and solo blocks with 17 on the season. She is ranked seventh in the MIAA at 1.16 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 193 on the year. Her average per game of 2.92 makes her third on the team while her .286 hitting percentage ranks first among Hornets seeing action in every match this season. She is also second on the squad in service aces with 20 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 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 averging 2.69 kills per game and is fourth on the team in total kills with 145 on the season. She is fourth in scoring for the Hornets, averaging 2.91 points per game.

## CHASING AMY

**Amy Byfield** (So. • Mission, Kan.) set a career high for digs pulling up 34 in the Hornets 3-0 sweep of then #12 Pittsburg State. That is the three game match high for the MIAA this season. 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 latest MIAA ranking at 4.97 digs per game and has 315 total digs.

## FLETCHER LIVES

**Kristin Fletcher** (Jr. • Lee's Summit, Mo.) is currently second on the team in blocks with 47 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 59 kills on the season to go along with 1.40 points per game average.

## MILLER TIME

## CSTV/AVCA Top 25

Sept. 10 Poll

No.	Team	Pts.	Rec.	LW
1.	Tampa	890	13-1	1
2.	Cal-State Bernadino	861	13-1	2
3.	Minnesota-Duluth	839	15-1	3
4.	Southwest Minnesota State	774	13-2	6
<b>5.</b>	<b>Central Missouri</b>	<b>757</b>	<b>18-1</b>	<b>5</b>
6.	Concordia-St. Paul	708	14-2	4
<b>7.</b>	<b>Washburn</b>	<b>697</b>	<b>18-1</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8.</b>	<b>Truman</b>	<b>643</b>	<b>15-3</b>	<b>8</b>
9.	Florida Southern	597	15-2	9
10.	Grand Valley State	576	15-2	11
11.	Augustana (S.D.)	492	13-4	13
12.	SIU Edwardsville	487	13-3	14
13.	Ashland	433	14-2	10
<b>14.</b>	<b>Pittsburg State</b>	<b>407</b>	<b>16-3</b>	<b>12</b>
15.	Hillsdale	400	14-4	17
16.	Minnesota State	363	12-3	15
17.	Cal State L.A.	353	9-4	16
18.	<i>West Texas A &amp; M</i>	<i>301</i>	<i>13-5</i>	<i>19</i>
19.	Chico State	275	11-4	20
20.	UC San Diego	178	9-5	21
21.	Nebraska-Omaha	166	8-5	18
22.	Nebraska-Kearney	112	13-3	25
<b>23.</b>	<b>Emporia State</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>13-4</b>	<b>NR</b>
24.	Northern Kentucky	71	15-4	22
25.	<i>Indianapolis</i>	<i>55</i>	<i>15-1</i>	<i>NR</i>

**Others Receiving Votes:** *South Dakota 44, Rockhurst 35, Northwood (MI) 30, West Florida 20, Cal Poly Pomona 12, Western Washington 11, Findlay 6, Lewis 6.*

**Dropped Out:** *Rockhurst (23), Northwood (MI) (25).*

**Next Poll:** October 1

**MIAA Teams in bold** ESU Opponents in italics

## ESU Attendance Since 2001

Year	Matches	Total	Avg.
2007	3	1070	357
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.



# 2007 EMPORIA STATE VOLLEYBALL GAME NOTES

**Brittney Miller** (Fr. • Paola, Kan.) had a career high 17 kills to lead the Hornets against #7 Washburn. She has now seen playing time in 28 games for the Hornets on the season and has 78 kills, ranking her fifth on the team. In her limited action she is averaging 2.79 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 .326 in limited action. She is fourth on the team in blocks per game with 0.46 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 133 digs to go along with 10 service aces as she has appeared in all 18 matches this season with one start.

### **SERGEANT CARTER**

**Hannah Carter** (Jr. • Olathe, Kan.) had five kills and four block assists in her first match 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. They are 2-2 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. Current freshman Ting Liu has been a two time MIAA Specialist of the week this season, the only MIAA volleyball player to earn that honor more than once.

### **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. On the season ESU's opponents have .606 winning percentage overall with a total record of 174-113. ESU also plays in the tougher of the two MIAA division as the West Division is 70-26 on the season (.729) while the East is 58-40 (.593). The West was 60-14 (.811) against teams outside of the MIAA, while the East was 45-29 (.608). The Hornets will face their next ranked opponent when they play #18 West Texas A & M in the upcoming Washburn Lady Blues Fall Classic.

### **TALE OF THE TAPE**

ESU		MWSU
<b>Attacking</b>		
1033	.Kills	.869
406	.Attack Errors	.463
2625	.Total Attacks	.2820
.239	.Attack Pct.	.144
15.7	.Kills/Game	.12.2
<b>Setting</b>		
933	.Assists	.757
14.1	.Assists/Game	.10.7
<b>Serve</b>		
103	.Aces	.108
88	.Service Errors	.112
1563	.Attempts	.N/A
944	.Serve Pct.	.N/A
1.6	.Aces/Game	.1.5
<b>Serve Receptions</b>		
67	.Errors	.125
1.0	.Errors/Game.	.1.8
<b>Defense</b>		
1135	.Digs	.1132
17.2	.Digs/Game	.15.9
<b>Blocking</b>		
35	.Block Solo	.41
204	.Block Assist	.289
137	.Total Blocks	.185.5
2.1	.Blocks/Game	.2.6
28	.Block Errors	.47
<b>Ball Handling</b>		
63	.Errors	.63
<b>Win Streak</b>		
lost 1	.Current Streak	.won 1

