

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*	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	#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 #7 Washburn (18-1, 3-0 MIAA)**

Wednesday, Sept. 22 • 7 p.m. • Lee Arena • Topeka, Kan.

Series Record: ESU leads 66-23 **Last Meeting:** ESU 3, at #18 WU 1 (10/25/06)
Up Next: Sept. 29 at MWSU • 7 p.m. • Looney Fieldhouse • St. Joseph, Mo.

TURNPIKE TUSSLE

The #23 Hornets take on the #7 Lady Blues in the Turnpike Tussle. For the first time in series history the two teams will meet as ranked opponents. This will also be the third straight game for Emporia State against a ranked opponent.

LAST TIME OUT

Emporia State upset then #12 Pittsburg State behind .333 hitting on their way to a 3-0 sweep. The Hornets used good serving and a great attack to build a 21-14 advantage before winning 30-22. They took game two and three by a score of 30-22. Megan Koster had a season high 18 kills on her way to earning Sports Impact/AVCA National Player of the Week honors. Arica Shepard also had 16 kills, while Bree Boner had 13 and Mary Walzcuk added 11. Amy Byfield had a season high 34 digs and had two service aces for the Hornets. Ting Liu had 56 assists in the match, coming only five short of her career high which came in a 3-2 win over Central Oklahoma.

THE COACHES

Bing Xu is 52-28 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 Herron** is 164-35 in his sixth season with the Lady blues.

SCOUTING THE LADY BLUES

Washburn is 18-1 on the season and comes in ranked #7 in the country. They are led by last week's Sports Impact/AVCA Player of the Week Tessa Jones who averages 4.06 kills per game. Their primary setter is Kate Hampson who has 767 assists on the season and is averaging 13.25 per game.

THE SERIES

This will be 90th meeting between the two teams with Emporia State holding a 66-23 edge. This will be the first time in series history that both teams have entered the match ranked in the Top 25 teams in the nation.

LAST TIME THEY MET

Emporia State upset then #18 Washburn in the final regular season match of the 2006 season. ESU outhit WU .274 to .213 in the 30-22, 29-31, 30-22, 30-24 win. The Hornets were led by Arica Shepard who had 16 kills to go along with a team leading 21 digs. Amy Byfield had 32 assists and Kayla Nolte dished 29 for the Hornets who had five hitters with double figure kills.

UP NEXT

ESU will travel to St. Joseph, Mo. on Sept. 29 to take on Missouri Western. first serve is set for 7 p.m. The Hornets will return home to face Southwest Baptist on Oct. 2 at 7 p.m. in White Auditorium.

Probable Lineup

No.	Name	Pos.	Yr.	K	K/G	Pct.	A	D	BS	BA	Hometown
Starters											
1	Mary Walzcuk	OH	So.	145	2.74	.239	12	24	0	24	Leawood, Kan.
7	Kristin Fletcher	MH	Jr.	57	0.95	.154	5	15	8	38	Lee's Summit, Mo.
4	Megan Koster	OH	Jr.	189	3.10	.262	120	171	3	21	Clay Center, Kan.
5	Arica Shepard	OH	So.	262	4.44	.255	6	220	1	13	Rossville, Kan.
6	Bree Boner	MH	Fr.	177	2.90	.276	9	53	17	54	Omaha, Neb.
16	Ting Liu	S	Fr.	66	1.08	.174	776	129	4	25	Beijing, China
3	Amy Byfield	L	So.	1	0.02	-.154	21	303	0	0	Mission, Kan.

Head Coach: Bing Xu (52-28, 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

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 3-1 against teams that were ranked at the time this season and have five matches remaining against teams currently ranked in the AVCA Top 25. Their four losses all come to teams who are either in the top 25, or are receiving votes. ESU's four losses are to teams with a combined record of 65-5 (.929) on the season and all four are currently ranked or receiving votes in the top 25.

HITTING THE TRAIL

The Hornets are ranked third in the MIAA with a .245 hitting percentage and are fourth in the league at 15.77 kills per game. Four Hornets are averaging at least 2.74 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 .943 on the season. The Hornets have connected on 101 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 262 and kills per game with 4.44. She currently second in the MIAA in kills per game and is also second in total points per game with 4.75. 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 17 matches for the Hornets and is averaging 3.73 digs per game. She is third among Hornets who have played in every match with .255 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 189 on the season, an average of 3.10 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 171 an average of 2.80 digs per game.

2007 HORNET TEAM NUMBERS

Match Record -----	13-4
MIAA Record -----	3-1
Streak -----	won 6
Games Won -----	43
Games Lost -----	18
Kills Per Game -----	15.8
Opponent Kills Per Game -----	13.5
Attack Percentage -----	.245
Opponent Attack Percentage -----	.190

2007 HORNET TEAM LEADERS

Kills -----	Arica Shepard	262
Kills Per Game -----	Arica Shepard	4.44
Attack Pct -----	Brianne Boner	.276
Assists -----	Ting Liu	776
Assists Per Game -----	Ting Liu	12.72
Service Aces -----	Ting Liu	30
SA Per Game -----	Ting Liu	0.49
Digs -----	Amy Byfield	303
Digs Per Game -----	Amy Byfield	4.97
Solo Blocks -----	Brianne Boner	17
Block Assists -----	Brianne Boner	54
Total Blocks -----	Brianne Boner	71
Points Per Game -----	Arica Shepard	4.75

2007 MIAA VOLLEYBALL STANDINGS

(as of 9-18)

	MIAA					Overall		
	W	L	GW	GL	Pct.	W	L	Pct.
West Division								
PSU (12)	2	0	6	0	1.000	15	1	.938
WU (7)	1	0	3	0	1.000	16	1	.941
ESU	2	1	7	3	.667	12	4	.750
FHSU	0	2	0	6	.000	10	7	.588
MSSU	0	3	0	9	.000	9	7	.563
East Division								
UCM (5)	3	0	9	1	1.000	16	1	.941
TSU (8)	2	0	6	0	1.000	12	3	.800
NWMSU	1	1	3	3	.500	8	9	.471
MWSU	0	1	0	3	.000	6	9	.400
SBU	0	3	0	9	.000	6	10	.375

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

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 776 which gives her an average of 12.72 assists per game, good for second in the MIAA. Even though she is the Hornets primary setter she is averaging 1.08 kills per game with 66 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 30 aces on the season and is serving at a .963 rate. She also ranks fourth in the MIAA in at 0.49 aces per game.

BRIANNE CAN

Brianne Boner (Fr. • Omaha, Neb.) leads the team in total blocks with 71, block assists with 54 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 177 on the year. Her average per game of 2.90 makes her third on the team while her .276 hitting percentage ranks first among Hornets seeing action in every match this season. She is also second on the squad in service aces with 19 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 fourth on the team in kills per game at 2.74 kills per game and total kills with 145 on the season. She is fourth in scoring for the Hornets, averaging 2.96 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 MIAA at 4.97 digs per game and has 303 digs on the season.

FLETCHER LIVES

Kristin Fletcher (Jr. • Lee's Summit, Mo.) is currently second on the team in blocks with 46 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 57 kills on the season to go along with 1.40 points per game average.

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
5.	Central Missouri	757	18-1	5
6.	Concordia-St. Paul	708	14-2	4
7.	Washburn	697	18-1	7
8.	Truman	643	15-3	8
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
14.	Pittsburg State	407	16-3	12
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 & 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
23.	Emporia State	95	13-4	NR
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

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 120 digs to go along with 10 service aces as she has appeared in all 17 matches this season with one start.

MILLER TIME

Brittney Miller (Fr. • Paola, Kan.) has now seen playing time in 23 games for the Hornets on the season and has 61 kills. She is averaging 5.6 attacks per game and has the Hornets current high hitting percentage at .326 in limited action. She is third on the team in blocks per game with 0.52 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 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. 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 will now face their third ranked opponent in a row when they take on Washburn on Wednesday, September 26.

FACING OFF

Megan Koster was named the Sports Impact/AVCA Player of the Week after hitting .348 while averaging 5.17 kills, 5.0 digs and 5.67 points per game to move the Hornets to #23 in the CSTV/AVCA Top 25. The #7 Lady Blues are led by last weeks National Player of the Week, Tessa Jones. It will be the second time that ranked opponents featuring National Players of the Week have faced off on the court this season. The last occurrence came when #4 Minnesota Duluth led by week two National Player of the Week Kari Wolford knocked off #3 Concordia-St. Paul, led by week one National Player of the Week Whitney Meierotto, 3-2 on Sept. 11 in St. Paul, Minn.

TALE OF THE TAPE

ESU		WU
Attacking		
962	.Kills	1097
368	.Attack Errors	365
2424	.Total Attacks	2761
.245	.Attack Pct.	.265
15.8	.Kills/Game	16.6
Setting		
871	.Assists	1005
14.3	.Assists/Game	15.2
Serve		
101	.Aces	104
83	.Service Errors	156
1452	.Attempts	1864
.943	.Serve Pct.	.916
1.7	.Aces/Game	1.6
Serve Receptions		
62	.Errors	67
1.0	.Errors/Game	1.0
1163	.Attempts	1379
.947	.Reception Pct.	.951
Defense		
1056	.Digs	1262
17.3	.Digs/Game	19.1
Blocking		
34	.Block Solo	44
186	.Block Assist	226
127	.Total Blocks	157
2.1	.Blocks/Game	2.4
26	.Block Errors	46
Ball Handling		
62	.Errors	22

