

2009 EMPORIA STATE VOLLEYBALL GAME NOTES



2009 SCHEDULE

Aug. 28-29 UNO Tournament

Aug. 28 vs. North Alabama W, 3-0
 Aug. 28 vs. Dallas Baptist W, 3-0
 Aug. 29 vs. East. New Mexico W, 3-0
 Aug. 29 vs. MSU-Mankato W, 3-0

Sept. 4-5 Midwestern St. Invite

Sept. 4 vs. Tarleton W, 3-0
 Sept. 4 at Midwestern State W, 3-1
 Sept. 5 vs. Northwood (Fla.) W, 3-0
 Sept. 5 vs. Central Oklahoma W, 3-1

Sept. 9 at Newman W, 3-0
 Sept. 12 vs. Edinboro (at UCM) W, 3-1
 Sept. 16 *at #19 Truman 7:00 p.m.

Sept. 18 *Missouri Western 7:00 p.m.
Sept. 19 *Northwest Missouri 4:00 p.m.
 Sept. 23 *at #11 Central Mo. 7:00 p.m.
Sept. 26 *#20 Neb-Omaha 4:00 p.m.

Oct. 2 Lady Blues Crossover

Oct. 2 vs. #7 West Texas A&M 11:30 a.m.
 Oct. 2 vs. Angelo State 4:30 p.m.
 Oct. 3 vs. Southwestern Okla. 9:00 a.m.
 Oct. 3 vs. Southeastern Okla. 1:00 P.M.
 Oct. 9 *at #22 Pittsburg State 7:00 p.m.
 Oct. 10 *at Missouri Southern 2:00 p.m.
 Oct. 13 *at Southwest Baptist 7:00 p.m.

Oct. 16 *#6 Washburn 7:00 p.m.
Oct. 17 *Fort Hays State 7:00 p.m.
Oct. 21 *#19 Truman 7:00 p.m.
 Oct. 23 *at Missouri Western 7:00 p.m.
 Oct. 24 *at Northwest Missouri 6:00 p.m.

Oct. 28 *#11 Central Missouri 7:00 p.m.
 Oct. 31 *at #20 Neb-Omaha 4:00 p.m.
Nov. 6 *#22 Pittsburg State 7:00 p.m.
Nov. 7 *Missouri Southern 7:00 p.m.
Nov. 10 *Southwest Baptist 7:00 p.m.
 Nov. 13 *at #6 Washburn 7:00 p.m.
 Nov. 14 *at Fort Hays State 4:00 p.m.

Nov. 19-21 South Central Regional

Dec. 3-5 NCAA Elite Eight

*MIAA Match Home Games in Bold

All home games played at White Auditorium.

ESU Media Relations

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Postgame policy: Coach Xu and select-
 ed players will be available following each
 home game. Please give all requests to an
 ESU SID. All mid-week interviews should be
 conducted after practice.

Match #11

#3 Emporia State (10-0)

at

#19 Truman (9-3)

Wednesday, Sept. 16 • 7 p.m. • Pershing Arena • Kirksville, Mo.

Series Record: TSU leads 31-11 **Last Meeting:** TSU 3, at ESU 0 (11/23/08)

Up Next: vs. Mo. Western • Sept. 18 • 7 p.m. • W. L. White Auditorium • Emporia, Kan.

CONFERENCE OPENER

The Hornets will face #21 Truman in the MIAA opener. The Bulldogs ended ESU's season with a 3-0 sweep in last year's NCAA South Central Regional Championship match. Since 2000 The Hornets are 4-4 overall in MIAA openers, but 5-3 in their first conference road match.

LAST TIME OUT

The #3 Emporia State volleyball team earned a 3-1 victory over Edinboro in the Peggy Martin Challenge in Warrensburg, Mo. The Hornets struggled hitting the ball, but had 11 blocks on the way to a 25-18, 25-23, 24-26, 25-21 victory. Arica Shepard led the way with her third straight double-double with 16 kills and 11 digs on the night. Brittney Miller finished with 13 kills and was the only other Hornet in double-figures. Freshmen Nicole Gingery and Caitlyn Murray both finished with five kills apiece.

THE COACHES

Bing Xu is 110-37 in his fifth year as head coach at Emporia State. Xu has led the Hornets to the NCAA Division II Regional Tournament in three of the last four seasons. In 2008 he led ESU to their first MIAA Championship as they hosted the South Central Regional for the first time.

Ben Briney is 9-3 in his first season with the Bulldogs.

SCOUTING THE BULLDOGS

Truman is 9-3 on the season and currently ranked #19 in the AVCA Top 25 poll. As a team they are hitting .203 on the year averaging 12.9 kills per set. They are led by Megan Sharpe who is averaging 3.24 kills and 0.88 blocks per set. The Bulldogs employ a two-setter system with Ashley Petak leading the team averaging 6.02 assists per set.

LAST TIME THEY MET

The #8 Truman Bulldogs used a dominating performance at the net in a 25-15, 25-14, 25-18 victory over #5 Emporia State in the NCAA Division II South Central Regional Volleyball Championship match. The Bulldogs outblocked the Hornets 12.0 - 3.0 and held ESU to -.044 hitting in the three set sweep. Allie Cherven had a match high 11 kills for TSU as ESU saw it's 19 match home court winning streak come to an end in front of a crowd of 2,105 in White Auditorium. ESU was led by Hannah Carter with nine kills.

THE SERIES

Truman leads the series 31-11 overall, but ESU took two of three from the Bulldogs last season.

UP NEXT

ESU will face Missouri Western in their home opener on Sept. 18 at 7 p.m. from W. L. White Auditorium.

Probable Lineup

No.	Name	Pos.	Yr.	K	K/G	Pct.	A	D	BS	BA	Hometown
Starters											
5	Arica Shepard	OH	Sr.	132	4.00	.297	9	119	0	14	Rossville, Kan.
14	Megan Lueger	OH	So.	58	1.76	.149	9	74	2	8	St. Mary's, Kan.
15	Brittney Miller	OH	Jr.	104	3.15	.292	13	13	3	16	Paola, Kan.
10	Nicole Gingery	MH	Fr.	14	2.00	.355	0	2	1	9	Lincoln, Neb.
6	Brianne Boner	MH	Jr.	80	3.08	.417	1	7	6	22	Great Bend, Kan.
3	Amy Byfield	L	Sr.	0	0.00	-.500	13	127	0	0	Mission, Kan.
16	Ting Liu	S	Jr.	30	0.91	.311	382	59	6	18	Beijing, China

Head Coach: Bing Xu (110-37, 5th year) **Assistant:** Ping Wang



2009 EMPORIA STATE VOLLEYBALL GAME NOTES

AND NOW FOR THE NATIONAL NEWS

The Hornets are now 10-0 and remain in the #3 spot in the AVCA Poll. They join five other MIAA squads who are in the polls with Washburn at #6, Central Missouri at #11, Truman at #19, Nebraska-Omaha #20 and Pittsburg State at #22 in the September 14 AVCA Top 25 poll. The six MIAA schools ranked is the most of any conference in Division II, the next highest has only four schools in the poll.

ALL-COMERS

The Hornets went 8-3 against nationally ranked opponents last season including a six match winning streak over ranked opponents at home during the regular season. They have won seven of their last eight over ranked opponents in White Auditorium overall. The Hornets will play 12 matches against teams either ranked or receiving votes in the AVCA poll.

QUICK HITTERS

- The Hornets have now won 14 straight regular season matches dating back to last season. They have won four straight on the road.
- The Hornets are 5-3 since 2000 in their first conference match of the season played away from home. The Hornets last road win over a ranked opponent came on Oct. 29 when they defeated #14 Central Missouri in Warrensburg, Mo.
- With her 11th kill against Central Oklahoma on Sept. 5 Arica Shepard became the all-time career kills leader at Emporia State passing Nikki Rennebaum.
- Amy Byfield is currently fifth all-time at ESU in digs and needs 15 digs to move into the fourth spot.
- Ting Liu is currently second all-time at ESU in assists and needs 2,156 to become the ESU career record holder.

IN THE LEAGUE AND AROUND THE NATION

The Hornets currently lead the MIAA in hitting percentage, assists and kills. They are second in opponent hitting percentage and blocks. They rank fifth in service aces and seventh in digs. ESU ranks sixth in the nation in both assists per set and kills per set.

QUICK STARTS

ESU has gotten off to a quick start in 2009 as they have only dropped three sets on their way to a 10-0 record. ESU opened the 2008 season by winning 21 of their first 22 matches and at one point winning 18 matches in a row. ESU opened 2007 by winning six of their first eight matches and going 13-4 over their first 17 contests. The Hornets won their first 13 matches in Bing Xu's career as head coach to open the 2005 season.

SHEPARD'S BOOK

Arica Shepard (Sr. • Rossville, Kan.) with her 11th kill against Central Oklahoma she became the ESU All-Time kills leader...she is the Hornet career record holder in kills with 1,616...she is also the ESU career leader in 20-plus kill matches and double-figure kills matches... was named an AVCA All-American for the second season in 2008... was named the MIAA Hitter of the Week for the opening weekend of play...had a season best 18 kills against Newman...leads the team in kills with 132 on the season averaging 4.00 per set...she is second on the team in digs with 119 averaging 3.61 per set...has eight double-doubles (kills/digs) through her first ten matches...she is ranked second in kills and ranks third in points per set in this weeks MIAA rankings... nationally she ranks 15th overall in kills.

2009 HORNET TEAM NUMBERS

Match Record -----	10-0
MIAA Record -----	0-0
Streak -----	won 10 matches
Sets Won -----	30
Sets Lost -----	3
Kills Per Set -----	14.4
Opponent Kills Per Set -----	10.3
Attack Percentage -----	.286
Opponent Attack Percentage -----	.126

2009 HORNET TEAM LEADERS

Kills -----	Arica Shepard	-----	132
Kills Per Set -----	Arica Shepard	-----	4.00
Attack Pct -----	Brianne Boner	-----	.417
Assists -----	Ting Liu	-----	382
Assists Per Set -----	Ting Liu	-----	11.58
Service Aces -----	Ting Liu	-----	14
SA Per Set -----	Ting Liu	-----	0.42
Digs -----	Amy Byfield	-----	127
Digs Per Set -----	Amy Byfield	-----	3.85
Solo Blocks -----	Boner/Liu	-----	6
Block Assists -----	Brianne Boner	-----	22
Total Blocks -----	Brianne Boner	-----	28

Must have played in 66.7% of matches

2009 MIAA VOLLEYBALL STANDINGS

	MIAA					Overall		
	W	L	GW	GL	Pct.	W	L	Pct.
Pittsburg St.	1	0	3	0	1.000	9	3	.750
Washburn	0	0	0	0	.000	12	0	1.000
Emporia St.	0	0	0	0	.000	10	0	1.000
Neb.-Omaha	0	0	0	0	.000	10	3	.769
Truman	0	0	0	0	.000	9	3	.750
NW Missouri	0	0	0	0	.000	7	5	.583
Mo. Western	0	0	0	0	.000	7	5	.583
Mo. Southern	0	0	0	0	.000	5	4	.556
SW Baptist	0	0	0	0	.000	5	7	.417
Fort Hays St.	0	0	0	0	.000	3	9	.250
Central Mo.	0	1	0	3	.000	10	3	.769

2008 NCAA Division II South Central Regional Ranking

Final Seeds

- 1. Emporia State (Host)**
- 2. Truman**
- 3. Washburn**
- 4. Pittsburg State**
5. West Texas A & M
- 6. Central Missouri**
- 7. Nebraska-Omaha**
8. UT-Permian Basin



2009 EMPORIA STATE VOLLEYBALL GAME NOTES

IN THE LIUP

Ting Liu (Jr. • Beijing, China) was named the MIAA Specialist of the Week last week...was a first team AVCA All-American and MIAA MVP during the 2008 season...has 382 total assists on the season...he currently leads the MIAA and is fourth nationally in assists per set averaging 11.58 on the season, nearly a whole assist more than her nearest competitor...also has 14 service aces, which ranks her sixth in the MIAA...also has 59 digs and 24 blocks on the season...she entered 2009 second all-time in career assists at ESU...with 3,708 assists in her career she needs 2,156 assists over her final two seasons to become the all-time leader at ESU.

CHASING AMY

Amy Byfield (Sr. • Mission, Kan.) was named honorable mention All-MIAA for the second straight season...had a season high 19 digs against Edinboro...is tenth in the MIAA in digs per set averaging 3.85 on the season...she is fifth all-time in digs at ESU and needs 15 digs to pass Mandy Stratton to move into fourth...needs 337 digs to become the career digs leader at Emporia State.

BRIANNE CAN

Brianne Boner (Jr. • Omaha, Neb.) was named the MIAA Hitter of the Week after hitting .481 in Texas and averaging 3.50 kills per set...is fourth in the MIAA in blocks per set averaging 1.08 and has six solo block to go along with 22 assist blocks...she currently ranks second in the MIAA and 13th in the nation in hitting percentage at .417...has 80 kills averaging 3.08 per set...did not play against Newman or Edinboro and is probable for the match against Truman.

MILLER TIME

Brittney Miller (Jr. • Paola, Kan.) was named third team All-MIAA...had a season high 15 kills against Newman in the 3-0 victory...she had double-figure kills for the first time this season as she had 11 against Minnesota State...has 104 kills on the year averaging 3.15 per set ranking her eighth in the MIAA.

MAJOR LUEGER

Megan Lueger (So. • St. Mary's, Kan.) has 58 kills on the season averaging 1.76 per set...has 74 digs on the year averaging 2.24 per set, ranking her third on the team...had her first career double figure digs match when she registered 16 against Minnesota State...had her first career double-double as she registered a career high 11 kills to go along with 12 digs as ESU beat Central Oklahoma 3-1 at the Midwestern State Invitational.

SNOOKERED

Jenna Snook (Sr. • Topeka, Kan.) had three service aces in ESU's 3-1 win over Edinboro...has 52 digs averaging 1.58 per set...got her 600th career dig against Newman.

I GOT THAT GOING FOR ME

Caitlyn Murray (Fr. • Great Bend, Kan.) made her first career start against Central Oklahoma...has 14 kills averaging 1.00 per set...has 12 total blocks on the year.

GINGERY SNAPS

Nicole Gingery (Fr. • Lincoln, Neb.) made her first career start against Newman University...has 14 kills averaging 2.00 per set along with 10 blocks averaging 1.43 per set.

CSTV/AVCA Top 25

September 14, 2009

No.	Team	Pts.	Rec.	LW
1	Concordia-St. Paul (32)	800	11-0	1
2	Cal State San Bernardino	768	9-0	2
3	Emporia State	731	10-0	3
4	UC San Diego	692	10-1	4
5	Tampa	665	9-1	5
6	Washburn	637	12-0	6
7	West Texas A&M	602	11-2	7
8	Nebraska-Kearney	569	11-1	9
9	Indianapolis	526	14-0	13
10	Southwest Minnesota State	512	10-2	12
11	Central Missouri	474	10-3	8
12	Minnesota Duluth	424	7-3	10
13	Sonoma State	410	10-0	T-15
14	Minnesota State	357	10-2	T-15
15	Florida Southern	313	7-4	11
16	Metro State	291	8-2	14
17	Lewis	274	9-3	20
18	West Florida	213	6-7	19
19	Truman	199	9-3	21
20	Nebraska-Omaha	175	10-3	23
21	Eckerd	159	6-3	22
22	Pittsburg State	118	9-3	NR
23	Nova Southeastern	100	8-4	17
24	Chico State	77	11-1	NR
25	Hawai'i-Hilo	65	10-0	NR

Others Receiving Votes: Wayne State (Mich.) 46; Western Washington 40; Grand Valley State 30; Hillsdale 25; Saint Leo 25; Ferris State 17; Wingate 16; Wayne State (Neb.) 15; Lynn 13; Saginaw Valley State 7

Dropped Out: Pittsburg State (17); Cal State L.A. (21); Augustana (S.D.) (25)

Next Poll: September 21st

MIAA Teams in bold ESU Opponents in italics

ESU Attendance Since 2002

Year	Matches	Total	Avg.
2008	13	12,116	936
2007	8	2,964	415
2006	8	1,867	233
2005	9	3,338	371
2004	10	2,162	216
2003	15	2,252	150
2002	11	2,084	189

ESU was #2 nationally in attendance in 2008.



2009 EMPORIA STATE VOLLEYBALL GAME NOTES

SERVICE STAR

Jocelyn DeMotte (Fr. • Topeka, Kan.) is currently second on the team in service aces with 11 averaging 0.35 per set on the season.

SCHMIDTBERGER AND FRIES

Katelyn Schmidtberger (Fr. • Salina, Kan.) has made four appearances for the Hornets on the season...had a career high six kills against Edinboro in only one set.

READY, WILLING AND ABELS

Kelsey Abels (So. • Lee's Summit, Mo.) has appeared in two sets on the season for the Hornets.

KAISER ROLLS

Katelyn Kaiser (Jr. • Valley Center, Kan.) has missed three matches and is out for the match against Truman due to injury... has 37 kills on the season.

THE NEWCOMERS

Meg Schwartz is a defensive specialist from Salina Central High School...she earned first team honors in class 5A during both her junior and senior seasons.

SENIOR MOMENT

After replacing only three seniors following last season, the Hornets have only three seniors on this season's squad, all four year letter winners. While at ESU the three seniors have compiled a record of 86-29 with three trips to the NCAA Tournament and an MIAA Championship. Defensive specialists Jenna Snook and Amy Byfield have a combined 2,204 digs between them. Outside hitter Arica Shepard is the ESU career record holder in kills, 20-plus kill matches and double-figure kills matches. The trio has combined to set six ESU single season records.

THE RECORD SETTING RECORD WATCH

With her 11th kill against Central Oklahoma Arica Shepard became the all-time leader in kills at Emporia State with 1616 over four seasons. Amy Byfield needs only 337 digs to become the Hornets all-time leader in that category. Junior Ting Liu needs only 2,156 assists over her final two seasons to become ESU's all-time leader.

ON THE COURT AND IN THE CLASSROOM

On the court ESU has finished the last three seasons ranked among the nation's best in the AVCA Top 25 poll. ESU also did well last year at home ranking second among all Division II Institutions in attendance. The Hornets have also gotten in done in the classroom as ESU has been named an AVCA All-Academic team in six of the last seven seasons.

TALE OF THE TAPE

ESU		TSU
ATTACK		
475	Kills	566
164	Errors	235
1088	Total Attacks	1632
.286	Attack Pct.	.203
14.4	Kills/set	12.9
SET		
440	Assists	511
13.3	Assists/set	11.6
SERVE		
50	Aces	55
37	Errors	113
1.5	Aces/set	1.2
SERVE RECEPTIONS		
43	Errors	38
0.7	Errors/set	0.9
DEFENSE		
484	Digs	718
14.7	Digs/set	16.3
19	Ball Handling Errors	24
BLOCKING		
21	Block Solo	18
114	Block Assist	128
78.0	Total Blocks	82.0
2.4	Blocks Per Set	1.9
13	Block Errors	12