

# 2009 EMPORIA STATE VOLLEYBALL GAME NOTES



## ESU TICKET PRICES:

Adult GA - \$5 Senior/Youth - \$3  
ESU students free with ID

## 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 W, 3-1

Sept. 18 \*Missouri Western W, 3-1

Sept. 19 \*Northwest Missouri W, 3-1

Sept. 23 \*at #9 Central Mo. L, 0-3

Sept. 26 **\*#18 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 #21 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 **\*#20 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 **\*#9 Central Missouri 7:00 p.m.**

Oct. 31 \*at #18 Neb-Omaha 4:00 p.m.

Nov. 6 **\*#21 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 #15

**#3 Emporia State (13-1, 3-1 MIAA)**

vs.

**#18 Nebraska-Omaha (14-3, 4-0 MIAA)**

Sept. 26 • 4 p.m. • W. L. White Auditorium • Emporia, Kan.

**Series Record:** Series tied 3-3-1 **Last Meeting:** at ESU 3, UNO 0 (11/1/08)

**Up Next:** at Lady Blues Crossover • Oct. 2-3 • Lee Arena • Topeka, Kan.

## TOP 20 SKIRMISH

The Hornets will face #18 Nebraska-Omaha as part of a three match streak against top 20 teams. This is the middle match as they will face #7 West Texas A&M to open play in the Lady Blues Crossover next weekend. With a win over the Mavericks the Hornets would move back into first place in the MIAA. ESU has won six straight over ranked opponents at home during the regular season.

## LAST TIME OUT

In a battle of top ten teams, the #3 Emporia State volleyball team fell 3-0 on the road to #9 Central Missouri. The Hornets hit only .076 on the night as they had 27 hitting errors in the 25-11, 25-18, 25-23 loss. It is the first time the Hornets have been held below a .100 hitting percentage since last season's Regional Championship. Arica Shepard had a match high 11 kills and pushed her double-double streak to seven as she had 10 digs.

## THE COACHES

**Bing Xu** is 113-38 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.

**Rose Shires** is 401-215 in her 20th season with the Mavericks.

## SCOUTING THE MAVERICKS

Nebraska-Omaha is 14-3 on the season and 4-0 in the MIAA. They are ranked #18 in the most recent AVCA poll. As a team they are second in the league in hitting percentage at .270 on the year. Ellen Thommes leads the MIAA in hitting percentage at .446 and is averaging 3.39 kills and 1.08 blocks per set. Emily Myers is second in the MIAA in assists averaging 11.20 per set. Natalie Ebke is second in the league in services aces averaging 0.47 per set.

## LAST TIME THEY MET

Hannah Carter had ten kills on .450 hitting and Megan Koster had 11 kills and digs as #8 Emporia State swept Neb.-Omaha 25-21, 25-15, 25-17 for their 15th straight home win in White Auditorium. Koster's 11 kills and 15 digs led ESU in both categories. She was joined in double figures in digs by Shepard with 13 and Amy Byfield with 11 digs. Ting Liu had 32 assists on the night.

## THE SERIES

The series stands tied as 3-3-1, although ESU leads in MIAA play with a 2-0 record.

## UP NEXT

ESU will travel up the turnpike for the Lady Blues Crossover Oct. 2-3. Opponents include #7 West Texas A & M, Angelo State, Southwestern Oklahoma and Southeastern Oklahoma.

## Probable Lineup

No.	Name	Pos.	Yr.	K	K/G	Pct.	A	D	BS	BA	Hometown
<b>Starters</b>											
5	Arica Shepard	OH	Sr.	203	4.23	.308	15	170	1	20	Rossville, Kan.
14	Megan Lueger	OH	So.	81	1.80	.147	10	102	2	11	St. Mary's, Kan.
15	Brittney Miller	OH	Jr.	152	3.17	.282	17	26	5	22	Paola, Kan.
11	Caitlyn Murray	MH	Fr.	27	0.93	.185	3	8	0	23	Great Bend, Kan.
6	Brianne Boner	MH	Jr.	121	2.95	.310	1	11	9	34	Omaha, Neb.
16	Ting Liu	S	Jr.	46	0.96	.261	561	89	6	23	Beijing, China
3	Amy Byfield	L	Sr.	1	0.02	.000	16	191	0	0	Mission, Kan.

**Head Coach:** Bing Xu (113-38, 5th year) **Assistant:** Ping Wang



# 2009 EMPORIA STATE VOLLEYBALL GAME NOTES

## AND NOW FOR THE NATIONAL NEWS

The Hornets are now 13-1 and remain in the #3 spot in the AVCA Poll. They join five other MIAA squads who are in the poll with Washburn at #6, Central Missouri at #9, Nebraska-Omaha at #18, Truman at #20 and Pittsburg State at #21 in the latest AVCA Top 25. The MIAA has the most teams ranked in the top 25.

## ALL-COMERS

ESU is 1-1 against ranked opponents this season following their loss to #9 Central Missouri. ESU also has a win over MSU-Mankato who is currently ranked 11th. In 2008 the Hornets went 8-3 against nationally ranked including a six match winning streak over ranked opponents at home during the regular season. They have won eight of their last nine over ranked opponents in White Auditorium. The Hornets will play 12 matches against teams either ranked or receiving votes in the poll.

## QUICK HITTERS

- The Hornets have won 19 straight regular season contests in the confines of William L. White Auditorium.
- ESU has won eight of it's last nine match-ups against ranked opponents in White Auditorium with their only loss coming against Truman in last season's Regional Championship.
- With her 11th kill against UCO on Sept. 5 Arica Shepard became the all-time career kills leader at Emporia State passing Nikki Runnebaum and now has 1,687 kills.
- Amy Byfield is currently fourth all-time at ESU in digs with 1,662 and needs 41 digs to move into the third spot passing Nikki Runnebaum.
- Ting Liu is currently second all-time at ESU in assists with 3,887 and needs 1,867 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 fourth in service aces. Nationally they are third in kills, fifth in assists and 10th in hitting percentage.

## QUICK START

ESU started the 2009 season 13-0 before falling to #9 Central Missouri. The start ties ESU's best as they also won 13 straight to begin the 2005 season, the first under head coach Bing Xu.

## SHEPARD'S BOOK

**Arica Shepard** (Sr. • Rossville, Kan.) pushed her double-double streak to seven matches with 11 kills and 10 digs against #9 Central Missouri on the road...has been named MIAA Hitter of the Week twice this season...averaged 4.92 kills last week to earn the honor...is averaging 4.67 kills and 3.13 digs per set while hitting .324 during conference play...with her 11th kill against Central Oklahoma she became the ESU All-Time kills leader she currently has 1,687 kills...she is also the ESU career leader in 20-plus kill matches with 22 and double-figure kills matches as she just had the 101st of her career...had a season best 21 kills against Northwest Missouri...leads the team in kills with 203 on the season averaging 4.23 per set...she is second on the team in digs with 170 averaging 3.54 per set...has 12 double-doubles (kills/digs) through her first 14 matches...she is ranked first in kills and ranks second in points per set in this weeks MIAA rankings...nationally she ranks ninth overall in kills....was named player of the week for the opening week of play after averaging 3.75 kills for that week....she needs only 45 kills to move into the MIAA career top 10 in kills...was named an AVCA All-American for the second season in 2008.

## 2009 HORNET TEAM NUMBERS

<b>Match Record</b> -----	13-1
<b>MIAA Record</b> -----	3-1
<b>Streak</b> -----	lost 1 match
<b>Sets Won</b> -----	39
<b>Sets Lost</b> -----	9
<b>Kills Per Set</b> -----	14.6
<b>Opponent Kills Per Set</b> -----	10.7
<b>Attack Percentage</b> -----	.264
<b>Opponent Attack Percentage</b> -----	.142

## 2009 HORNET TEAM LEADERS

<b>Kills</b> -----	Arica Shepard	203
<b>Kills Per Set</b> -----	Arica Shepard	4.23
<b>Attack Pct</b> -----	Brianne Boner	.310
<b>Assists</b> -----	Ting Liu	561
<b>Assists Per Set</b> -----	Ting Liu	11.69
<b>Service Aces</b> -----	Ting Liu	29
<b>SA Per Set</b> -----	Ting Liu	0.42
<b>Digs</b> -----	Amy Byfield	191
<b>Digs Per Set</b> -----	Amy Byfield	3.98
<b>Solo Blocks</b> -----	Brianne Boner	9
<b>Block Assists</b> -----	Brianne Boner	34
<b>Total Blocks</b> -----	Brianne Boner	43

*Must have played in 66.7% of matches*

## 2009 MIAA VOLLEYBALL STANDINGS

	MIAA					Overall		
	W	L	GW	GL	Pct.	W	L	Pct.
Neb.-Omaha	4	0	12	5	1.000	14	3	.824
Washburn	3	1	11	4	.750	15	1	.938
<b>Emporia St.</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>.750</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>.929</b>
Central Mo.	3	1	9	3	.750	13	3	.812
Pittsburg St.	3	1	11	4	.750	11	4	.733
Truman	2	2	8	9	.500	11	5	.688
NW Missouri	1	2	4	8	.333	8	7	.533
Fort Hays St.	1	3	7	11	.250	4	12	.250
Mo. Southern	0	2	1	6	.000	5	6	.455
SW Baptist	0	3	2	9	.000	5	10	.333
Mo. Western	0	4	3	12	.000	7	9	.438

## 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) has twice been named the MIAA Specialist of the Week...she earned it last week for averaging 12.75 assists per set...was a first team AVCA All-American and MIAA MVP during the 2008 season...has 561 total assists on the season...she currently leads the MIAA and is third nationally in assists per set averaging 11.69 on the season, nearly a whole assist more than her nearest MIAA competitor...also has 20 service aces, which ranks her fourth in the MIAA...also has 89 digs and 29 blocks on the season...she entered 2009 second all-time in career assists at ESU...with 3,887 assists in her career she needs 1,867 assists over her final two seasons to become the all-time leader at ESU.

## CHASING AMY

**Amy Byfield** (Sr. • Mission, Kan.) is averaging 4.07 digs per during conference play...had a season high 22 digs against Edinboro...is tenth in the MIAA in digs per set averaging 3.98 on the season...she has reached double-figures in digs in 13 of 14 matches this season and needs only eight more to become the ESU career leader in that category passing Leah Griswold...she is fourth all-time in digs at ESU and needs 41 digs to pass Nikki Runnebaum to move into third...needs 280 digs to pass Cara Petri to become the career digs leader at Emporia State...was named honorable mention All-MIAA for the second straight season.

## BRIANNE CAN

**Brianne Boner** (Jr. • Omaha, Neb.) was named the MIAA Hitter of Week after hitting .481 in Texas and averaging 3.50 kills per set...is third in the MIAA and 37th in the nation in blocks per set averaging 1.05 and has nine solo blocks to go along with 34 assist blocks...she currently ranks fifth in the MIAA in hitting percentage at .310...has 121 kills averaging 2.95 per set

## MILLER TIME

**Brittney Miller** (Jr. • Paola, Kan.) had a season high 18 kills against Missouri Western in the 3-1 victory and followed it up with 17 kills in a win over NW Missouri...she has reached double figures in seven of her last ten matches...has 152 kills on the year averaging 3.17 per set ranking her ninth in the MIAA and ninth in hitting percentage at .282...was named third team All-MIAA in 2008.

## MAJOR LUEGER

**Megan Lueger** (So. • St. Mary's, Kan.) has 81 kills on the season averaging 1.80 per set...has 102 digs on the year averaging 2.27 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.) has double-figure digs in two straight matches...has 88 digs averaging 1.83 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 and has been in the line-up ever since...has 27 kills averaging 0.93 per set...has 23 total blocks on the year.

## CSTV/AVCA Top 25

September 21, 2009

No.	Team	Pts.	Rec.	LW
1	Concordia-St. Paul (32)	800	14-0	1
2	Cal State San Bernardino	768	11-0	2
3	<b>Emporia State</b>	<b>731</b>	<b>13-0</b>	<b>3</b>
4	UC San Diego	692	12-1	4
5	Tampa	668	11-1	5
6	<b>Washburn</b>	<b>641</b>	<b>15-0</b>	<b>6</b>
7	West Texas A&M	606	13-2	7
8	Nebraska-Kearney	570	13-1	8
9	<b>Central Missouri</b>	<b>523</b>	<b>12-3</b>	<b>11</b>
10	Minnesota Duluth	480	9-3	12
11	<i>Minnesota State</i>	<i>459</i>	<i>12-2</i>	<i>14</i>
12	Indianapolis	422	15-1	9
13	Lewis	378	11-3	17
14	Southwest Minnesota State	360	10-4	10
15	Sonoma State	340	12-1	13
16	Metro State	319	10-2	16
17	Florida Southern	308	9-4	15
18	<b>Nebraska-Omaha</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>12-3</b>	<b>20</b>
19	West Florida	201	7-7	18
20	<b>Truman</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>10-5</b>	<b>19</b>
21	<b>Pittsburg State</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>10-4</b>	<b>22</b>
22	Hawai'i-Hilo	117	12-0	25
23	Chico State	97	12-2	24
24	Eckerd	76	6-5	21
25	Hillsdale	64	12-1	29

**Others Receiving Votes:** Wayne State (Neb.) 50; Saint Leo 28; Wayne State (Mich.) 28; Nova Southeastern 25; Western Washington 25; Barry 21; Grand Valley State 20; Lynn 17; Wingate 10; Saginaw Valley State 8

**Next Poll:** September 28th

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

## ESU Attendance Since 2002

Year	Matches	Total	Avg.
2009	2	1,396	698
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

## GINGERY SNAPS

Nicole Gingery (Fr. • Lincoln, Neb.) made her first career start against Newman University...has 14 kills averaging 1.75 per set along with 10 blocks averaging 1.25 per set.

## SCHMIDTBERGER AND FRIES

Katelyn Schmidtberger (Fr. • Salina, Kan.) had four service aces against #9 Central Missouri...had a career high seven kills against Edinboro in only one set and then got six kills against Northwest Missouri...now has 18 kills on the season averaging 1.80 per set.

## SERVICE STAR

Jocelyn DeMotte (Fr. • Topeka, Kan.) is eighth in the MIAA in service aces with 15 averaging 0.33 per set on the season.

## READY, WILLING AND ABELS

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

## KAISER ROLLS

Katelyn Kaiser (Jr. • Valley Center, Kan.) has missed seven matches and is out for the Nebraska-Omaha match due to injury...has 37 kills on the season.

## MAY THE SCHWARTZ BE WITH YOU

Meg Schwartz (Fr. • Salina, Kan.) 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 89-30 with three trips to the NCAA Tournament and an MIAA Championship. Defensive specialists Jenna Snook and Amy Byfield have a combined 2,304 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 1,687 over four seasons. Amy Byfield needs 280 digs to become the Hornets all-time leader in that category and needs only eight more double-figure dig matches to become the ESU all-time leader in that category. Junior Ting Liu needs 1,867 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		UNO
<b>3</b>	<b>NATIONAL RANK</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>13-1</b>	<b>RECORD</b>	<b>14-3</b>
<b>3-1</b>	<b>MIAA RECORD</b>	<b>4-0</b>
..... <b>ATTACK</b> .....		
700	Kills	903
263	Errors	280
1655	Total Attacks	2307
.264	Attack Pct.	.270
14.6	Kills/set	14.1
..... <b>SET</b> .....		
643	Assists	825
12.9	Assists/set	13.4
..... <b>SERVE</b> .....		
69	Aces	106
46	Errors	142
1.4	Aces/set	1.7
..... <b>SERVE RECEPTIONS</b> .....		
35	Errors	77
0.7	Errors/set	1.2
..... <b>DEFENSE</b> .....		
732	Digs	996
15.2	Digs/set	15.6
17	Ball Handling Errors	26
..... <b>BLOCKING</b> .....		
27	Block Solo	24
160	Block Assist.	197
107.0	Total Blocks	122.5
2.2	Blocks Per Set	1.9
17	Block Errors	23