

2008 SCHEDULE/RESULTS

8/28-29	at Missouri Southern Invitational	
8/28	vs. Southeastern Oklahoma	L, 1-3
8/28	vs. Harding	W, 3-1
8/29	vs. Midwestern State	W, 3-0
8/29	vs. Missouri S&T	W, 3-1
9/4-5	at Abilene Christian Tournament	
9/4	vs. Incarnate Word	L, 2-3
9/4	at Abilene Christian	L, 1-3
9/5	vs. Angelo State	W, 3-1
9/5	vs. Cameron	W, 3-2
9/11-12	at Peggy Martin Classic – Central Missouri	
9/11	vs. Edinboro University	1:00
9/11	at No. 12 Central Missouri*	7:00
9/12	vs. St. Mary's (TX)	10:00
9/12	vs. Missouri-St. Louis	2:00
9/18	at Nebraska-Omaha*	7:00
9/20	at Fort Hays*	2:00
9/23	Missouri Western*	7:00
9/25	at Northwest Missouri*	7:00
9/26	at No. 9 Truman*	3:00
10/2-3	Pittsburg State Classic	
10/2	Dallas Baptist University	2:00
	No. 12 Central Missouri*	6:00
	Texas A&M Commerce	10:30
	Abilene Christian	3:00
10/9	No. 3 Emporia State*	7:00
10/10	No. 11 Washburn*	6:00
10/11	Fort Hays*	2:00
10/14	Missouri Southern*	7:00
10/17	Southwest Baptist*	2:00
10/23	Nebraska-Omaha*	7:00
10/24	Alumni (Exhibition)	11:00
10/28	at Missouri Western*	7:00
10/30	Northwest Missouri*	7:00
10/31	No. 9 Truman* (Senior Day)	3:00
11/6	at No. 3 Emporia State	7:00
11/7	at No. 11 Washburn	2:00
11/11	at Missouri Southern	7:00
11/14	at Southwest Baptist	2:00
11/19-21	NCAA Div II Regionals	TBA
12/3-5	NCAA Div II Finals	TBA

MATCHES 9-12

AT PEGGY MARTIN CLASSIC

SEPTEMBER 11-12

UCM MULTI-PURPOSE BUILDING

WARRENSBURG, MO.

Tournament Teams: St. Mary's (Texas), Missouri-St. Louis, Edinboro, Central Missouri

Gorilla's Tournament Schedule:

Friday, September 11

1 p.m. - vs. Edinboro

7 p.m. - vs. Central Missouri

Saturday, September 12

10 a.m. - vs. St. Mary's (Texas)

2 p.m. - vs. Missouri-St. Louis

Up Next: September 18 vs. Nebraska-Omaha in Omaha, Neb. and September 20 vs. Fort Hays State in Hays, Kan.

PSU VS. OPPONENTS

This will be only the second meeting between Pitt State and Edinboro. The teams met for the first time last season, with Pitt State winning 3-1 (25-22, 25-17, 22-25, 25-23).

Central Missouri leads the Gorillas 4-44-1. The Jennies won both matches last season, taking the first 3-0 (21-25, 27-29, 21-25) in Warrensburg. The Gorillas were able to take a set in Pittsburg, but UCM still came out on top, 3-1 (25-12, 23-25, 22-25, 25-27). The last time Pitt State won a match over the Jennies was Nov. 6, 2007. The Gorillas took the match 3-0.

Pitt State and St. Mary's (Texas) have never met.

The Gorillas trail Missouri-St. Louis in the all-time series, 5-9. The two teams have not met since September 15, 2007. Pitt State won that match 3-0.

LAST TIME OUT

The Gorillas had a streaky outing in Abilene, Texas at the Texas Christian Volleyball Classic.

The Gorilla Volleyball team (3-3) lost both matches in the opening day of the Abilene Christian Volleyball Classic. PSU lost an exciting 3-2 battle to Incarnate Word, before falling to the host team, 3-1.

Pitt State dropped the first two sets to Incarnate Word, 18-25 and 20-25, before coming back to take set three by a convincing score of 25-13. The Gorillas won a close fourth set 25-21 to force the fifth set before falling, 10-15.

Senior Pamela Cartagena led the team offensively and defensively as she recorded 18 kills, 19 digs and two solo blocks. Sophomore Corrine Stringer added 15 kills, while junior Molly Bergkamp added 11. Bergkamp added 13 digs to her kills for a double-double. Junior Cassie Wilson also added 17 digs. Senior setter Emily Vosseler recorded a double-double with 45 assists and 13 digs, showing her defensive improvement as well. She also had five kills in the match.

Pitt State also got behind two sets to none against Abilene Christian losing the first two sets 14-25 and 21-25. The third set saw Pitt State win 25-22, and hoping for another five set match. It was not to be however, as ACU took the fourth set by a close margin, 21-25.

The Gorillas had a rough match, hitting only .074 as a team against ACU. Conversely, Abilene Christian hit .233 as a team and had 11 team blocks to just 4 for PSU.

Only two Gorillas finished the match with double figure kills, Cartagena with 11 and freshman Leah Flynn with 10. Vosseler (10), Cartagena (15) and Wilson (17) each contributed double figures in digs. Freshman Brooke Fay led the way at the net, earning three block assists on the night.

The team (5-3) rallied from its Friday losses with two wins on Saturday. The Gorillas handed Angelo State (6-1) its first loss of the season, 3-1, before defeating Cameron 3-2.

2009 PITT STATE VOLLEYBALL

NO	NAME	POS	HT	YR	EXP	HOMETOWN/PREVIOUS SCHOOL
1	Emily Vosseler	S	5-10	SR	2L	Leavenworth, Kan./Immaculata High School
2	Riann Deere	DS/L	5-3	JR	TR	Lansing, Kan./Neosho County Community College
3	Pamela Cartagena	OH	5-7	SR	3L	Bayamon, Puerto Rico/Thompson High School
4	Molly Bergkamp	M/OH	5-9	JR	TR	Blue Rapids, Kan./Hutchinson Community College
5	Brooke Fay	M/OH	6-0	FR	HS	Parkville, Mo./Park Hill South High School
7	Andrea Torres	MB	6-1	FR	HS	Cochabamba, Bolivia/Colegia Aleman Frederico
8	Tesia Lahm	DS/L	5-6	SO	SQ	Carl Junction, Mo./Carl Junction High School
9	Samantha Franiuk	OH/RS	5-10	SO	SQ	Tonganoxie, Kan./Tonganoxie High School
10	Corrinne Stringer	OH	6-0	SO	TR	Topeka, Kan./University of Kansas
11	Cassie Wilson	DS/L	5-10	JR	1L	Pittsburg, Kan./Pittsburg High School
12	Leah Flynn	OH/RS	5-11	FR	HS	Topeka, Kan./Hayden High School
14	Rebecca Pearson	S	5-8	FR	HS	Kansas City, Mo./St. Pius X High School
16	Shannon Majors	OH	5-8	FR	HS	Topeka, Kan./Washburn Rural High School
20	Brook Jansen	M/RS	5-11	FR	HS	Shawnee, Kan./St. James Academy

Head Coach: Ibraheem Suberu (Park, Mo., 1993) - 11th Season
Assistant Coach: Lindsay Sowder-Hill (Pittsburg State, 2003) - Second Season
Student Assistant: Kaitlyn Smith - First Season
Manager: Wes Book - Second Season

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE		Samantha FRANIUK	fron-YOOK
Name	Sounds Like	TESIA LAHM	teh-SHA LAM
Pamela CARTAGENA	cart-uh-HEY-na	IBRAHEEM SUBERU	EE-bra-heem Soo-ber-oo
RIANN Deere	RYAN		

Pitt State took the first two sets against Angelo State 26-24 and 25-21, before falling 18-25 in the third set. The Gorillas rallied in the fourth set to close the match with a 25-18 score.

Senior Pamela Cartagena and Freshman Leah Flynn both recorded double figure kills with Cartagena leading the way with 17 and Flynn adding 13. Cassie Wilson was the team's digs leader with 21. Cartagena recorded a double-double as she also had 17 kills. Junior Molly Bergkamp added 10 digs. Flynn was the Gorillas leading blocker with two solo and two assisted blocks.

The match with Cameron went five sets. The two teams traded the first two sets, with Cameron winning the first and Pitt State winning the second, both by scores of 25-23. Pitt State took their second set momentum into the third to win 25-15. The fourth set was another 25-23 score, this time going to Cameon, to force a fifth set for the second time on the weekend. This time the Gorillas came out on top, winning 15-9.

Cartagena led the team with a career-high 30 kills. She also added 28 digs. Wilson also recorded 28 digs, tying her career high. Brooke Fay (15), Corrinne Stringer (13) and Molly Bergkamp (10) also each recorded double figure kills. Tesia Lahm added 10 digs.

The Gorillas hit .266 for the match, to just .186 for Cameron. though Cameron outblocked Pitt State 7-2.

RANKINGS

After the rough weekend in Abilene, the Gorillas dropped out of the AVCA Coaches Poll. The Gorillas are currently receiving 32 votes, second most of those outside the top 25.

PSU again started the season as the No. 17 team in the country according to the AVCA Coaches Top 25 Preseason Poll. The Gorillas are slated to play eight matches against teams ranked in the preseason poll, with all of those matches being in conference action. PSU's highest ranked opponent is Emporia State at No. 3.

"This year's team understands its pre-season No. 17 ranking is because of the respect for what the Pitt State Volleyball program has become," said Head Coach Ibraheem Suberu. "They are working hard to earn their own identity."

STREAKY SCHEDULE

This season's schedule is quite streaky. The Gorillas begin the season with 14 straight matches on the road and play only one home match in September. Then October hits. The Gorillas open the month hosting the Pitt State Classic sponsored by Holiday inn Express on Oct. 2 and 3 and will play 10 straight matches at home. They play only one match on the road in October. The last home match of the season in on Halloween, as PSU hits the road again in November.

OPENING CONFERENCE PLAY

This weekend will mark the opening of conference play for the Gorillas. Their match against UCM in the Peggy Martin Classic will be a conference match. The two teams will play their second conference match against each other in the Pitt State Classic on Oct. 2.

Conference play for the Gorillas continues next weekend as they travel to nebraska-Omaha and Fort Hays State.

CLOSING IN ON 200

Head Coach Ibraheem Suberu is closing in on his 200th win at Pitt State. His record two weeks into his 11th season in Pittsburg is 188-160. He is just 12 wins from the 200 wins plateau.

Suberu is already the winningest head coach in the program's history. On Sept. 19, 2006, Suberu collected his 113th win at PSU to pass Joan Warrington on the school's all-time coaching victories list. He collected his 150th win on Oct. 16, 2007 in a three-set match against Rockhurst.

Records Watch

Pamela Cartagena could set new records for both career kills and career digs this season. She is currently third on the kills list with 1,449. Though that is still 377 away from the record of 1,825 set by Sammie Williams just last season, Cartagena need only to average 14.5 kills in each of the regular season matches remaining. She has averaged just over 17 per match for the first eight matches of the season.

Cartagena is second on the all-time digs list with 1,848. She needs 479 for the school record, which is currently 2,326 set by Dina Wathan from 2000-03. This record will be a bit harder to attain, as she needs to average just over 18 digs a game.

RETURNING LETTERWINNERS

There are two crucial pieces to the 2009 Pitt State squad earning its own identity . . . and its own spot in the rankings. Those crucial pieces are its seniors, outside hitter Pamela Cartagena (5-7, Bayamon, Puerto Rico) and senior Emily Vosseler (5-10, Leavenworth, Kan.). Both are fifth-year seniors and they will be relied on for their experience and leadership.

Cartagena is no stranger to the rigors of the Pitt State schedule and the competitiveness of the teams the squad will face, especially in league play. Because of that experience and her ability to score points, Cartagena must be the anchor for her young team. In the past, Cartagena has had a strong cast of supporting veteran players around her. She has been one of several stars on the court, now she will be the main star that the offensive and defensive schemes revolve around.

"We will rely on Pamela to carry a big part of our offense and defense," Suberu said. "She will have to be the person that our pass defense and attack flows through more than in the past.

Vosseler's role will be to be a steadying factor on the court for all the young players. Her experience on the court the last three years and as a starter last year give her the skills to be a more consistent player. Her consistency at setter is necessary for a smoothly run offense. At the end of last season, Vosseler also began to take on a bigger defensive role, as she put up bigger numbers of blocks and digs. That trend will continue this season as her experience will be valuable both at the net and in the back court.

Junior Cassie Wilson (5-10, Pittsburg, Kan.) is the third Gorilla player who saw considerable time on the court in 2008. Her role will continue to expand in 2009, so much, in fact, that Coach Suberu describes her position as a utility player. In addition to a continued defensive role in the back court, Wilson will also be relied on contribute offensively in the front court as well.

"Cassie has fashioned a very important role for herself as someone who can play both offensively and defensively," Suberu said. "Her role will change match to match, based on where she is most needed. She is capable of being dominant as a libero, as well as provide stability at the net as an offensive player."

SETTERS

Training behind Vosseler at the setter position will be freshman Becca Pearson (5-8, Kansas City, Mo./St. Pius X High School). Pearson has a strong presence on the court, good energy and communications skills and good defensive skills. As she works on more consistency in her set location and decision making, she will become more capable of being a bigger contributor.

OUTSIDE/RIGHTSIDE HITTERS

The outside/rightside hitter positions have a returner with one year of experience and two newcomers joining Cartagena. Sophomore Samantha Franiuk (5-10, Tonganoxie, Kan.) saw limited action last season, but came on during the spring and in early preseason practices. She has established herself as a point scorer, reads schemes better and has expanded her shot making range. Sophomore Corrinne Stringer (6-0, Topeka, Kan.) joins the Pitt State squad from the University of Kansas. She is a very physical player. She is adjusting to the Pitt State system very well and since arriving in Pittsburg has improved her range, form, footwork and passing. She will be counted on to produce points. Freshman Shannon Majors (5-8, Topeka, Kan./Washburn Rural High School) has a very good volleyball IQ and is evolving to be a physical force. She is improving her speed and vertical elevation so she will be able to play above the net consistently.

PERSONNEL BREAKDOWN

Starters Returning (3)

	Pos.	Ht.	Yr.
Pamela Cartagena	OH/RS	5-7	Sr.
Emily Vosseler	S	5-10	Sr.
Cassie Wilson	DS	5-10	Jr.

Starters Lost (5)

	Pos.	Ht.	Yr.
Valeen Finney	OH/RS	6-1	So.
Klaudia Grelowska	OH/RS	6-1	Sr.
Linda Igbinigie	MB	6-4	Sr.
Lindsay Quall	MB/RS	5-10	Sr.
Sammie Williams	RS/OPP	6-1	Sr.

Letterwinners Lost (1)

	Pos.	Ht.	Yr.
Samantha Ball	S	5-8	Fr.

Squadmembers Returning (2)

	Pos.	Ht.	Yr.
Samantha Franiuk	OH/RS	5-10	So.
Tesia Lahm	DS	5-6	So.

Newcomers (9)

	Pos.	Ht.	Yr.
Molly Bergkamp	MB/OH	5-9	Jr.
Riann Deere	DS	5-3	Jr.
Brooke Fay	MB/OH	6-0	Fr.
Leah Flynn	OH/RS	5-11	Fr.
Brook Jansen	MB/RS	5-11	Fr.
Shannon Majors	OH	5-8	Fr.
Rebecca Pearson	S	5-8	Fr.
Corrinne Stringer	OH	6-0	So.
Andrea Torres	MB	6-1	Fr.

Seniors (2)

	Pos.	Ht.	Exp.
Pamela Cartagena	OH	5-7	3L
Emily Vosseler	S	5-10	2L

Juniors (2)

	Pos.	Ht.	Exp.
Molly Bergkamp	MB/OH	5-9	TR
Riann Deere	DS	5-3	TR

Sophomore (3)

	Pos.	Ht.	Exp.
Samantha Franiuk	OH/RS	5-10	SQ
Tesia Lahm	DS	5-6	SQ
Corrinne Stringer	OH	6-0	TR

Freshmen (6)

	Pos.	Ht.	Exp.
Brooke Fay	MB/OH	6-0	Fr.
Leah Flynn	OH/RS	5-11	Fr.
Brook Jansen	MB/RS	5-11	Fr.
Shannon Majors	OH	5-8	Fr.
Rebecca Pearson	S	5-8	Fr.
Andrea Torres	MB	6-1	Fr.



MIDDLE BLOCKERS

Five new players will be competing for spots in middle blocker positions. Junior Molly Bergkamp (5-9, Blue Rapids, Kan.) transferred to Pitt State from Hutchinson Community College. She will play middle blocker/outside hitter. She is quick and aggressive and her quickness will be an asset in the Gorilla's blocking defense. She will be able to produce points and will be a leader on the court. Junior Sydney Pemberton (6-2, Overland Park, Kan.) developed a high volleyball IQ while playing the last two seasons at Johnson County Community College. She will be a force in both middle blocker and right side hitter positions as she is capable of high point production and is a defensive force at the net. Freshman Brooke Fay (6-0, Parkville, Mo./Park Hill South High School) is a very athletic middle blocker/outside hitter with tremendous range. She possesses advanced blocking skills and is working on learning the rhythm of the Pitt State offense. Freshman Leah Flynn (5-11, Topeka, Kan./Hayden High School) has the potential to be a 3-to-4-point scorer per set. She has the ability to be multi-dimensional in her offensive role and has caught on quickly during preseason. Freshman Brook Jansen's (5-11, Shawnee, Kan./St. James Academy) attention to detail, determination to excel and understanding of the game will allow her to become a dependable point scorer for the Gorillas, whether in a middle blocker or rightside hitter position. If she continues the progress she has made in preseason, she will see more time as the season progresses.

DEFENSIVE SPECIALISTS

Pitt State has two players focusing as defensive specialists in 2009. Junior Riann Deere (5-3, Lansing, Kan.) transferred from Neosho Community College where she played libero for two seasons. She is a quick, high energy player, who is very team oriented. She will be able to provide the Gorillas with consistent passing, providing shut down, ball off the floor defense that is necessary to give the offense second and third chances to score points. Sophomore Tesia Lahm (5-6, Carl Junction, Mo.) has improved her communication skills and her vocal presence has been impressive in preseason workouts. That improved communication has helped her improve as a passer and defensive stopper. She will be counted on to contribute significantly this season.