

## 2009 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	W, 3-0
9/11	at No. 8 Central Missouri*	W, 3-0
9/12	vs. St. Mary's (TX)	W, 3-0
9/12	vs. Missouri-St. Louis	W, 3-1
9/18	at No. 20 Nebraska-Omaha*	L, 2-3
9/20	at Fort Hays*	W, 3-1
<b>9/23</b>	<b>Missouri Western*</b>	<b>W, 3-0</b>
9/25	at Northwest Missouri*	W, 3-0
9/26	at No. 20 Truman*	L, 1-3
<b>10/2-3</b>	<b>Pittsburg State Classic</b>	
<b>10/2</b>	<b>Dallas Baptist University</b>	<b>W, 3-0</b>
	<b>No. 5 Central Missouri*</b>	<b>L, 0-3</b>
	<b>Texas A&amp;M Commerce</b>	<b>W, 3-1</b>
	<b>Abilene Christian</b>	<b>L, 1-3</b>
<b>10/9</b>	<b>No. 8 Emporia State*</b>	<b>L, 0-3</b>
<b>10/10</b>	<b>No. 7 Washburn*</b>	<b>L, 1-3</b>
<b>10/11</b>	<b>Fort Hays*</b>	<b>W, 3-0</b>
<b>10/14</b>	<b>Missouri Southern*</b>	<b>W, 3-2</b>
<b>10/17</b>	<b>Southwest Baptist*</b>	<b>W, 3-0</b>
<b>10/23</b>	<b>No. 15 Nebraska-Omaha*</b>	<b>W, 3-1</b>
10/28	at Missouri Western*	W, 3-1
<b>10/30</b>	<b>Northwest Missouri*</b>	<b>W, 3-0</b>
<b>10/31</b>	<b>No. 18 Truman* (Senior Day)</b>	<b>W, 3-0</b>
11/6	at No. 7 Emporia State	W, 3-1
11/7	at No. 9 Washburn	L, 1-3
11/11	at Missouri Southern	W, 3-1
11/14	at Southwest Baptist	W, 3-1
11/19-21	at NCAA-II South Central Regional	
11/19	vs. Emporia State	5 p.m.
11/20	vs. Central Missouri/Dallas Baptist	8:30 p.m.
12/3-5	NCAA Div II Finals	TBA

## MATCHES 35 & ???

### AT NCAA-II SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL

### NOVEMBER 19-21

### NOV. 19 VS. EMPORIA STATE • 5 P.M.

### MULTIPURPOSE BUILDING • WARRENSBURG, MO.

No. 21 Pittsburg State finished the regular season winning 10 of its last 11 matches and hopes to carry that momentum into the NCAA-II South Central Regional Tournament this week. Pitt State will open NCAA play with No. 10 Emporia State on Thursday at 5 p.m. A win will pit the Gorillas against either top-seeded Central Missouri or Dallas Baptist at 8:30 p.m. on Friday. Pitt State is the No. 5 seed in the region, while Emporia State is the No. 4 seed.

#### THE SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL FIELD

Six MIAA teams were selected to the eight-team South Central Regional Field. Earning the top seed was MIAA Champion **Central Missouri** (32-4). MIAA runner up **Washburn** (32-4) is the No. 2 seed, followed by **West Texas A&M** (31-3) who won the Lone Star Conference to earn an automatic bid. **Emporia State** (29-5) finished third in the MIAA to earn the No. 4 seed, followed by the MIAA's fourth-place team **Pittsburg State** (24-10) as the fifth seed. The No. 6 seed is **Truman** (24-12) the MIAA's fifth-place team. **Nebraska-Omaha** (20-13) earned the No. 7 seed as the sixth-place team in the MIAA. **Dallas Baptist** (20-16) earned the eighth and final spot with an automatic bid as the winner of the Heartland Conference.

#### SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL SCHEDULE

##### Thursday, November 19, 2009

12:00 PM - Match 1 - #3 West Texas A&M vs. # 6 Truman  
 2:30 PM - Match 2 - # 2 Washburn vs. # 7 Nebraska-Omaha  
 5:00 PM - Match 3 - # 4 Emporia State vs. # 5 Pittsburg State  
 7:30 PM - Match 4 - # 1 Central Missouri vs. # 8 Dallas Baptist

##### Friday, November 20, 2009

6:00 PM - Match 5 - Winner of West Texas A&M/Truman vs. Winner of Washburn/Nebraska-Omaha  
 8:30 PM - Match 6 - Winner of Emporia State/Pittsburg State vs. Winner of Central Mo/Dallas Baptist

##### Saturday, November 21, 2009

3:30 PM - Match 7 - Championship

#### TICKETS

Tickets for the NCAA DII South central Regional Tournament can be purchased through the Central Missouri Athletics Ticket Office. To order by phone call the ticket office at (660) 543-4063. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$3 for youth and students. An all sessions pass can also be purchased. It is \$20 for adults and \$8 for students and youth.

#### PITT STATE IN THE NCAA TOURNAMENT

This marks Pitt State's sixth season of being selected to the NCAA Tournament and its fourth consecutive year. All of Pitt State's NCAA Tournament appearances have been under Head Coach Ibraheem Suberu. Pitt State holds a 1-5 record in NCAA Tournament matches, with its only win being over North Alabama, 3-2, on November 18, 2004 in Kirksville, Mo.

#### PITT STATE NCAA TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Date	Opponent	W/L	Score	Set Scores
11/21/03	Central Missouri	L	3-2	27-30, 30-26, 29-31, 31-29, 15-13
11/18/04	North Alabama	W	3-2	23-30, 30-17, 33-35, 30-24, 20-18
11/19/04	Truman	L	3-1	30-24, 29-31, 30-22, 30-25
11/9/06	North Alabama	L	3-1	31-29, 27-30, 30-19, 30-22
11/15/07	Emporia State	L	3-0	30-25, 30-28, 30-25
11/21/08	West Texas A&M	L	301	20-25, 29-31, 25-22, 28-30

# 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		

## EMPORIA STATE IN THE NCAA TOURNAMENT

Emporia State will make its fourth appearance in the NCAA South Central Regional tournament, including its third straight. The Hornets are 3-3 overall in post-season play, but are 2-1 in first round matchups.

## PSU VS. THE SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL FIELD

Pitt State has faced the six MIAA teams in the South Central Regional this season and finished with a 5-7 record against those teams. The Gorillas split the series with each of the teams, with the exception of Washburn. In the series with Nebraska-Omaha and Truman, each team won on its home court. In the series with Emporia State and Central Missouri, the team's won on the road. In fact, Pitt State is the only team to have defeated the Jennies on their home court this season.

## SCOUTING THE GORILLAS

The Gorillas are 24-10 overall. They went 14-6 in MIAA play to finish fourth in the league. Pitt State has won 10 of its last 11 games, including an eight-game win streak from Oct. 11 to Nov. 6.

As a team, the Gorillas are averaging 16.78 points per set and hitting at a .227 clip with an average of 14.0 kills per set. The team also records 17.67 digs per set and 1.58 blocks per set. The Gorillas aggressive serving style garners them 1.17 aces per set.

Pitt State is led by senior outside hitter Pamela Cartagena, who does a lot for the Gorillas offensively and defensively. She averages 4.38 points per set, including a team-leading 4.04 kills per set. She also is second on the team in digs with 4.11 per set. She leads the team with a .253 hitting percentage.

Senior Emily Vosseler keeps the offense running from the setter position and averages 11.4 assists per set. She is also more of a threat in other ways as well. She has recorded 46 blocks and 69 kills on the season, both more than she has in her previous three seasons at Pitt State. She has also recorded 264 digs.

Cassie Wilson is the team's leader in digs with 4.80 per set.

Five Gorillas have recorded 40 or more blocks on the season, but it is the new players who are leading the team. Freshman Brooke Fay leads the team with 65 total blocks (12 solo, 53 assisted). Junior Molly Bergkamp is second with 57, followed by sophomore Corrinne Striger with 56. Vosseler has 46 and freshman Leah Flynn has 42

Stringer and Bergkamp are also strong contributors offensively. Stringer averages 3.32 kills per set, second only to Cartagena, while Bergkamp averages 2.66.

## SCOUTING THE HORNETS

Emporia State is 29-5 overall and went 16-4 in conference action to finish third in the league. The team's five losses this season were to Truman (3-1), West Texas A&M (3-2), Central Missouri (3-0), Pittsburg State (3-1) and Washburn (3-1). The Hornets have won seven of their last 10 matches.

As a team, the Hornets average 18.17 points per game. They are hitting .265 with 14.8 kills per set, with assists on 13.6 of those kills. The team has 261.0 total blocks on the season for 2.19 blocks per game. The back court averages 16.75 digs per game.

Arica Shepard is the team's leader a .324 hitting percentage and 4.24 kills per set. She is also strong in the back court, as she is second on the team with 3.91 digs per set. Brittney Miller (3.42 kps), Brianne Boner (2.37 kps) and Katelyn Schmidtberger (2.10 kps) are more regulars in the Emporia State lineup that average two or more kills per set

Ting Liu is one of the best setters in the country. She averages 11.7 assists per set, while also averaging 1.11 kills, 2.38 digs and 0.56 blocks per set. She also leads the team with 39 service aces on the year.

Defensively, Amy Byfield anchors the back court with 4.43 digs per set. At the net, five different players have 50 or more blocks on the season. They are led by Brianna Boner who has 75 blocks on the season for 0.97 blocks per set. Second on the team is Katelyn Kaiser with 69 total blocks.

## PSU VS. EMPORIA STATE

Emporia State holds a 62-17 advantage over Pitt State in the all-time series. The two teams have split the series each of the last two seasons. In 2008, each team won on its home court, while this season, each team won on the road. Emporia State has won seven of the last 10 meetings. The first meeting between the two teams was November 2, 1974, the first season of volleyball at Pitt State. Emporia State won the match 2-0 (15-4, 15-9). The two teams have met one time in NCAA Tournament play. The Hornets eliminated the Gorillas from the tournament in 2007 with a 3-0 win (20-25, 30-28, 30-25).

## THIS SEASON VS. THE HORNETS

The Pittsburg State Volleyball team (22-9, 12-5 MIAA) edged one step closer to ensuring themselves a spot in the NCAA South Central Region as they earned an important road win over No. 7 Emporia State on Friday evening (Nov. 6) in Emporia. The Gorillas took the match 3-1 (27-25, 20-25, 25-22, 25-22).

The match came down to timely scoring and taking advantage of every opportunity, as the only statistical category the Gorillas came out on top was blocks, outblocking the Hornets 6.0 to 4.0. Emporia State recorded five more kills than the Gorillas and had fewer service errors. Pitt State worked well together as a team, as evidenced by the fact that all but four of their 66 kills were assisted.

Senior Pamela Cartagena led the team with a double double, recording 20 kills and 16 digs. Sophomore Corrinne Stringer added 17 kills, while junior Molly Bergkamp had 10. Junior Cassie Wilson led all players with 25 digs, while sophomore Tesia Lahm had her first double figure match with 14 digs on the night. Senior Emiyl Vosseler recorded 57 assists and also helped out at the block, recording both a solo block and a block assist.

Brittney Miller was only one of two Hornet players to record double digit kills, as she led all players with 25. Arica Shepard added 15 kills and 24 digs. Setter Ting Liu also recorded a double double with 58 assists and 13 digs. Amy Byfield recorded 21 digs to round out players in double figures.

The Pittsburg State Volleyball team fell to 4-4 in MIAA play and 14-8 overall with a 3-0 (25-17, 25-17, 30-28) loss to No. 8 Emporia State (18-2, 5-1 MIAA) on Friday (Oct. 9) at John Lance Arena.

The Gorillas fell 25-17 in both of the first two sets, but were not about to lie down in the third set. The Gorillas had their first lead of the match early in the third set and built it to a four-point lead at 5-1 on junior Molly Bergkamp's serve. Emporia State battled back and tied the game two times before taking the lead at 13-14. Pitt State did not regain the lead, but never fell behind more than two points until the Hornets went up 23-20. Pitt State battled back and forced five match points before ESU earned the win by a final score of 30-28.

Bergkamp led the Gorillas with 12 kills. Freshman Brooke Fay added 10 kills. Sophomore Corrinne Stringer was just short of double figures with nine kills and also added a solo block. Senior Pamela Cartagena recorded only seven kills, but led the team with 15 digs and also added a solo block. Junior Cassie Wilson added 12 digs. Emily Vosseler dished out 11 assists for PSU.

The Hornets' Arica Shepard led all players with 17 kills, while Amy Byfield led with 18 digs.

## LAST TIME OUT

The Pittsburg State Volleyball team (24-10, 14-6 MIAA) won its final regular season home game with a 3-1 (25-21, 25-23, 23-25, 25-10) victory over the Southwest Baptist Bearcats (12-24, 5-15) on Saturday (Nov. 14) afternoon in Bolivar, Mo.

The Gorillas hit .300 for the match compared to just .226 for the Bearcats. Three of the PSU players hitting in double figures for the match also hit at at .300 clip or higher. Pitt State outblocked SBU by just one, but recorded five solo blocks.

The first two sets were very close. There were 24 ties and 11 lead changes in the two sets. The third set saw SBU take an early lead and lead by as much as 11 at 20-9, before fighting back within one at 24-23 before SBU took the set. The Gorillas dominated the Bearcats in the fourth set for the win.

Junior Molly Bergkamp led PSU with 16 kills, as she hit at a .424 clip. Sophomore Corrinne Stringer and senior Pamela Cartagena each contributed 14 kills. Stringer hit .303 for the match. Cartagena added 16 digs for a double-double. Freshman Brooke Fay led the team hitting at a .474 clip with 11 kills in 19 attempts with only two errors. She also led the team with three blocks. Junior Cassie Wilson led the Gorillas with 22 digs. Sophomore Tesia Lahm added 10.

## 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.

**AVCA DIVISION II COACHES TOP 25**  
**NOVEMBER 16, 2009**

No.	School	Points	Record	LR
1.	Concordia-St. Paul (32)	800	31-0	1
2.	Cal State San Bernardino	767	29-1	3
3.	UC San Diego	697	27-2	2
4.	<b>Central Missouri</b>	<b>664</b>	<b>32-4</b>	<b>6</b>
5.	West Texas A&M	631	34-3	5
6.	Tampa	610	28-2	8
7.	Nebraska-Kearney	585	33-2	4
8.	<b>Washburn</b>	<b>537</b>	<b>32-4</b>	<b>9</b>
9.	Indianapolis	506	35-1	10
10.	<b>Emporia State</b>	<b>473</b>	<b>29-5</b>	<b>7</b>
11.	Lewis	456	29-4	11
12.	Saint Leo	415	28-3	12
13.	Southwest Minnesota State	363	25-7	15
14.	Hawaii-Hilo	339	25-1	17
15.	Minnesota Duluth	324	22-8	16
16.	Minnesota State	277	26-6	13
17.	Wayne State (Neb.)	249	28-7	14
18.	Sonoma State	207	23-7	18
19.	Cal State LA	192	21-8	21
20.	Metro State	98	21-7	24
21.	<b>PITTSBURG STATE</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>22-10</b>	<b>22</b>
22.	<b>Truman</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>23-11</b>	<b>19</b>
23.	<b>Nebraska-Omaha</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>20-12</b>	<b>20</b>
24.	Wingate	82	31-1	23
25.	Abilene Christian	42	29-6	NR

Others receiving votes and listed on two or more ballots:  
Abilene Christian 39; California (Pa.) 26;  
Alaska-Anchorage 19; Dowling 14; Hillsdale 14.

SBU had three players record 14 kills a piece, Ashley Jurgensmeyer, Alex Smith and Kelsey Stewart. Lauren Noble led all players with 34 digs. Brianna Wallace recorded a double-double with 12 digs and 46 assists.

**STRINGER NAMED CO-HITTER OF THE WEEK IN FINAL WEEK OF THE SEASON**

Pittsburg State volleyball sophomore Corrinne Stringer has been named the MIAA Co-Hitter of the Week, the league announced on Tuesday (Nov. 17).

Last week in road wins over Missouri Southern and Southwest Baptist, Stringer hit .365 with 28 kills in 63 attempts and only five attack errors. She also added five solo blocks and 13 digs for the week. Against Missouri Southern Stringer led the team with 14 kills while hitting at a .433 clip. She recorded only one attack error in the match and had three solo blocks. She added another 14 kills and two solo blocks against Southwest Baptist.

Stringer is a nursing major from Topkea, Kan. She is the daughter of John and Telisa Stringer.

The other co-hitter of the week was Bradye Peniston from Central Missouri who recorded a team season-high 20 kills while hitting a match high .400 in Central Missouri's 3-2 victory over Nebraska-Omaha that clinched the conference title for the Jennies.

The specialist of the week was Nebraska-Omaha's Angie Reicks who set a school record with 46 digs in UNO's match against Central Missouri.

**PSU IN CONFERENCE ACTION**

The Gorillas are 127-202 (.386) in conference action since joining the MIAA in 1989. That record improves to 87-92 (.486) since Head Coach Ibraheem Suberu took over the program in 1999 and to 43-23 (.652) over the last three seasons.

**GORILLAS IN CONFERENCE STATS**

Everyone in the MIAA, except league leader Central Missouri, lost at least four matches in conference play. The Gorillas, who finished 14-6 in league play, were fourth. Central Missouri won the league title with an 18-2 record. Washburn finished second at 16-4 with Emporia State third at 16-4.

As a team, the Gorillas are fifth in hitting percentage and third in kills and assists. The team leads the league in digs. They are ninth in blocks, eighth in opponent hitting percentage and fifth in service aces.

Individually, Pamela Cartagena is second in the league in kills with 4.04 per set. She is also ninth in digs with 4.11 per set and second in points (4.38 pps). Emily Vosseler is second in assists with 11.47 per set and eighth in aces with 0.28 per set. Cassie Wilson ranks fourth in the league in digs with 4.80 per set. Corrinne Stringer is fifth on the kills list with 3.32 per set and sixth in points with 3.74 per set.

**STREAKY SCHEDULE**

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

**RECORDS WATCH**

Pamela Cartagena entered the season prepped to set new records for both career kills and career digs. After last week she moved up to second on the career kills list with 1816. That is only nine away from the record of 1,825 set by Sammie Williams just last season. Cartagena needs just 10 kills against Emporia State to set a new record.

Cartagena is second on the all-time digs list with 2,232. She needs 94 for the school record, which is currently 2,326 set by Dina Wathan from 2000-03. The Gorillas will have to go deep in the post season for her to break this record.

Cartagena recorded her 2,000th career dig in the match against Abilene Christian on Saturday, October 3. She is only the second player in school history to record more than 2,000 digs in her career.

Against Missouri Western, Cartagena set the career record for sets played. She has now played in 493 sets in her four-year career, besting the record of 468 set by Dina Wathan from 2000-03.

Cartagena is also currently on the top 10 lists for single season kills and attacks. She is fourth for kills with 505 and third for attacks with 1,489.

Emily Vosseler has 1,457 assists on the season, which puts her fifth on the all-time single season list in that category. The record is 1,622 set by Sarah Brannock in 2006. Vosseler is also now second on the career assists list with 3,424. The record is owed by Megan Barth who had 3,580 from 1999-2002. Though the Gorillas would have to go deep in the post-season for Vosseler to break either record.

Cassie Wilson now ranks fifth on the career digs list with 1,266.

**200 WINS**

Head Coach Ibraheem Suberu earned his 200th career win at Pitt State with the 3-0 win over Southwest Baptist on October 17. He is the first coach in program history to earn 200 wins. He entered the season just needing 17 wins to reach this plateau. Suberu now has a 206-166 (.554) record as head coach at PSU.

Suberu was 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.

### **DIG PINK**



Pitt State earned 510.92 during October for Dig Pink. Dig Pink is a Breast Cancer Awareness Rally that was held all of October to raise awareness and funds, sponsored by the Side-Out Foundation.

Each year the Side-Out Foundation wants to make a statement by holding hundreds, potentially thousands, of featured high school and college matches across the country to help educate and raise funds to eradicate this terrible disease. Proceeds will go towards doing something significant and identifiable in the fight against Breast Cancer.

In 2008, 330 college and 285 high school teams raised \$390,000 through Dig Pink Rallies. This season 910 college and high school teams have raised almost \$305,000.

### **CARTAGENA NAMED MIAA HITTER OF THE WEEK**

Pitt State senior outside hitter Pamela Cartagena was named the MIAA Hitter of the Week on Sept. 15, as voted on by a committee of conference SIDs.

Cartagena was named Most Valuable Player of the UCM Peggy Martin Classic as she led the Gorillas to a 4-0 record in the tournament, including a conference-opening win over No. 8 Central Missouri. She finished the weekend hitting at a .310 clip with 54 kills. Cartagena recorded double-doubles against Central Missouri (15 kills, 15 digs) and Missouri-St. Louis (20 kills, 18 digs). The 20 kills against Missouri-St. Louis marks the third time this season she has recorded 20 or more kills in a match. Cartagena averaged 4.50 kills and 3.92 digs per set. She also added three blocks and an ace and averaged 4.71 points per set.

Against Missouri-St. Louis, she recorded her 1,500th career kill, making her only the third player in PSU Volleyball history to record 1,500 or more kills. Cartagena is also now one of only two players in program history to have more than 1,500 kills and 1,500 digs in her career.

Cartagena is a two-time All-American from Bayamon, Puerto Rico. She is majoring in recreation and is the daughter of Pedro and Felicita Cartagena.

### **THREE NAMED TO PEGGY MARTIN CLASSIC ALL-TOURNAMENT TEAM**

Senior outside hitter Pamela Cartagena was named the Peggy Martin Classic Most Valuable Player, while senior setter Emily Vossler and sophomore outside hitter Corrinne Stringer took up two more spots on the six person All-Tournament team.

Cartagena was named MVP after leading the Gorillas with 4.50 kills per set on the weekend, while hitting at a .310 clip. She also averaged 3.92 digs per set, as she recorded two double-doubles. She tallied 15 kills and 15 digs in PSU's MIAA-opening win over No. 8 Central Missouri and added 20 kills and 18 digs in the win over Missouri-St. Louis. She also added three block assists and a service ace.

Vossler averaged 11.31 assists per game. She earned a double-double in the win over UMSL as she recorded 50 assists and tied her season-high with 15 digs. She recorded a career-high four service aces in the win over St. Mary's and added two more against Missouri-St. Louis. Vossler also added six kills and three block assists to the team effort on the weekend.

Stringer averaged 3.92 kills per set and hit .256 over the weekend's four matches. She recorded double digit kills in each of the matches, leading the Gorillas with 13 kills against St. Mary's and recording a career-high 16 against UMSL. She also added five blocks and 18 digs for the weekend.

### **RANKINGS**

After two losses in the Pitt State Classic, the Gorillas dropped out of the top 25 for a couple weeks. The Gorillas are now back in the rankings at No. 21.

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."

### **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 Vossler (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.

Vossler'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, Vossler 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 Vossler 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.

#### **MIDDLE BLOCKERS**

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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**

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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.