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2009 MSUB VOLLEYBALL

2009 MSUB Schedule/Results 14-10 Overall / 7-5 GNAC

MSUB VOLLEYBALL 2009 Game Notes

Date	Opponent	Time/Result
8/27	at Hawaii Pacific !	W, 3-2
8/28	at BYU-Hawaii !	L, 3-1
8/29	vs. Hawaii Hilo !	L, 3-0
	at Chaminade !	W, 3-2
9/4	vs. Mont. St. Northern \$	W, 3-2
9/5	vs. Minot State \$	W, 3-0
	at University of Mary \$	L, 3-2
9/11	Northwest Nazarene *?	L, 3-1
	Northern State ?	L, 3-2
9/12	University of Mary ?	W, 3-0
	Dickinson State ?	W, 3-0
9/17	at Alaska Fairbanks *	L, 3-2
9/18	at Alaska Anchorage *	W, 3-0
9/22	at Rocky Mountain College	L, 3-0
9/26	Saint Martin's *	W, 3-0
9/28	Alaska Anchorage *	W, 3-1
10/1	at Northwest Nazarene *	L, 3-2
10/3	at Seattle Pacific *	W, 3-2
10/13	Rocky Mountain College	W, 3-1
10/15	Central Washington *	L, 3-1
10/17	Western Washington *	L, 3-0
10/22	at Saint Martin's *	W, 3-0
10/24	at Western Oregon *	W, 3-0
10/29	Seattle Pacific *	W, 3-1
11/5	Western Oregon *	7:00 p.m.
11/7	Alaska Fairbanks *	7:00 p.m.
11/12	at Central Washington *	7:00 p.m.
11/14	at Western Washington *	7:00 p.m.

! - AQUA Hotel Invitational (Oahu, Hawaii)

\$ - Expressway Inn and Suites Invitational (Bismark, N.D.)

? - Montana State Billings Tournament

* - Great Northwest Athletic Conference game

All times local to site

AND WE'RE MOVIN ON UP...

With the victory last week over Seattle Pacific University, the Yellowjackets moved into a tie for fourth place in the Great Northwest Athletic Conference. MSUB is just one game behind Western Washington and just two behind SPU. Though the Yellowjackets are three and a half games behind Alaska Anchorage, MSUB could surge into second place in the conference by seasons end. MSUB has four games remaining on the schedule, they are 1-3 this season against those teams but look to change their fortune the second time around.

IF YOU WANT TO BE THE BEST...

Defeating SPU last Thursday meant a season sweep of the top two teams in the conference standings. The Yellowjackets swept both squads for the second time in three years. MSUB is just 3-5 in the other matches played this conference season.

SENIORS LAST STAND...

This week's games will be the final two home matches in the careers of Devon Crotteau, Hillary Morrison and Jill Trabing. The three seniors have been instrumental in the turnaround from last season. Crotteau will leave MSUB as one of the most prolific hitters in MSUB history. She currently has 1286 kills which is fourth in school history, but will move in to third this weekend, sitting two back of third place on the list (Oliva Munro, 1288). Morrison is the team leader in assists, while Trabing ranks among the best in digs.

WE'RE GOING STREAKING...

Currently, MSUB is on a three game winning streak and have won five of the last seven. The current winning streak ties the longest of the season which was done from 8/29 to 9/5.

A LOOK BACK...

Going into last week, MSUB was sitting in the middle of the field in the GNAC standings. A win Thursday night against SPU would put the 'Jackets back in the top half of the conference and position them for an end-of-the-year run toward the top. For the second time this season, MSUB handled the Falcons, this time proving the first win was no fluke. The Yellowjackets jumped on SPU early with a 25-17 victory in the first, and then claimed a second set victory, 25-22. SPU was able to keep the match alive with a third set victory, but MSUB sent the Falcons packing with a dominating third set victory, 25-16. The Yellowjackets were led by Crotteau and her 18 kills, while Jen Boe recorded 10 kills and Morrison tallied 44 assists in the match.



2009 MSUB QUICK FACTS

UNIVERSITY

Name Montana State University Billings
 Location Billings, MT
 Founded 1927 (Formerly Eastern Montana College)
 Enrollment 5,041
 Nickname Yellowjackets
 Colors Navy Blue & Gold
 Conference Great Northwest Athletic Conference
 Chancellor Dr. Ronald Sexton
 Director of Athletics Dr. Gary Gray
 Facility Alterowitz Gymnasium
 Seating Capacity 3,500

COACHING STAFF

Head Coach Steve Smith
 Alma Mater Western Oregon
 Record at MSUB 14-10
 Overall Record 44-82 (4 yrs)
 Assistant Coaches Catherine Losett & Filip Alimpic
 Volleyball Office Phone 406-657-2603
 Athletic Department Fax 406-657-2919

VOLLEYBALL HISTORY

First Year of Volleyball 1981
 All-Time Record 270-469

TEAM INFORMATION

2008 Record 7-23
 GNAC Record/Finish 4-12/8th
 Letterwinners Returning/Lost 7/6
 Starters Returning/Lost 3/3
 Newcomers 5

ABOUT WESTERN OREGON (7-17, 4-9)

The defending GNAC champions come into the week in eighth position in the standing. The Wolves are currently on a six game losing skid which dates back Oct. 10, a five set loss at Central Washington. One of those losses came at the hands of MSUB (3-0, Oct. 24) in Monmouth. Danielle Reese leads the team in kills with 227 in total and averaging 3.11 per set. Amy Herron has recorded 727 assists as Laura Sakala leads the team in blocks with 60 on the season.

INSIDE THE SERIES...

Montana State Billings is just 2-6 in the eight meetings prior to this week's match-up. MSUB got its first win in Monmouth in its fourth try and are now 1-3, but are 1-1 at home. The lone victory came in Alterowitz on Sept. 15, 2007, 3-1. The win snapped a three game skid against the Wolves, dating back to the Sept. 15, 2007 win at home.

ABOUT ALASKA FAIRBANKS (7-12, 5-7)

Fairbanks enters the week sitting in seventh position in the GNAC. The Nanooks are coming off of a weekend sweep of Saint Martin's and Western Oregon. UAF swept Saint Martin's and defeated the Wolves, 3-1. They come to Billings with the reigning Player of the Week in Alexa Sherman who had 91 assists, 14 digs and five blocks, all while hitting .684. Megan Thigpen leads the team in kills, averaging 3.93 kills per set with 2.89 digs per set. Sherman leads the team in assists with 826, while Allison Oddy is leading the team in total digs with 257 for a 3.38 average per set.

INSIDE THE SERIES...

The Nanooks hold a five game edge in the series with

2008 MONTANA STATE BILLINGS NUMERICAL ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Yr.	Hometown/Previous School
1	Jennifer Boe	OH	5-8	Jr.	Casper, WY (Kelly Walsh HS)
2	Hillary Morrison	S	5-10	Sr.	Evansville, WY (Chadron State)
3	Kayla Neumiller	OH	5-8	Fr.	Colstrip, MT (Colstrip HS)
4	Morgan Moss	S	5-5	Fr.	Fowler, CO (Fowler HS)
5	Jill Trabing	DS	5-8	Sr.	Buffalo, WY (Buffalo HS)
6	Whitney Mickelsen	DS	5-4	So.	Aurora, UT (North Sevier HS)
7	Devon Crotteau	OH	6-0	Sr.	Casper, WY (Northern Colorado)
8	Jody Lutz	MB/RS	6-1	R-Fr.	Dugald, Manitoba (MBCI Mennonite)
12	Alyson Cookes	MB	6-1	Fr.	Aurora, CO (Eaglecrest HS)
13	Hannah Johnson	MB	6-2	Fr.	San Diego, CA (La Costa Canyon HS)
14	Melissa Porter	MB	6-3	So.	Redmond, UT (North Sevier HS)

Head Coach: Steve Smith (First Year)
 Assistant Coach: Catherine Losett
 Assistant Coach: Filip Alimpic
 Student Manager: Djeneba Toure



MSUB. In 39 games the Yellowjackets are 17-22 all-time, but are 12-11 at home. On the road, the 'Jackets are just 5-10 including a loss earlier this season. Last season the two teams split the series, both teams winning on the others' court. The Yellowjackets are 3-2 against the Nanooks since moving into the GNAC in 2007.

LOOKING AHEAD...

With just five games left in the 2009 season, three home and two on the road, the Yellowjackets are looking to finish the season on a high note. After this week's match with SPU, MSUB stays at home to face Western Oregon (Nov. 5) and Alaska Fairbanks (Nov. 7) with both games starting at 7 p.m. MSUB will then finish the season on the road at Central Washington (Nov. 12) and at Western Washington (Nov. 14).

LUTZ GARNERS POW HONORS...

Jody Lutz was named Great Northwest Athletic Conference Player of the Week for Oct. 26. It is her first weekly conference honor of the season and third for the volleyball program this season. The Dugald, Manitoba, Canada native recorded 13 kills and 10 blocks, nearly doubling her season set average in both categories, helping lead the Yellowjackets to consecutive 3-0 sweeps on the road at Saint Martin's and Western Oregon. Currently, Lutz is fourth in the conference in blocks per set with 0.99 but is third in total blocks with 89. She also ranks sixth in hitting percentage with a .266 average and 115 kills.

AMONG THE NATIONS ELITE...

Devon Crotteau currently ranks fifth in the nation with 4.39 kills per set, the leader, Tatiana Kuhn of Henderson State has 4.94. Crotteau's numbers currently rank her first in the GNAC and are also tops in the conference for points per set (4.92) and are fifth in hitting percentage and service aces per set.

PORTER CLAIMS POW...

Porter was named Great Northwest Athletic Conference Co-Player of the Week (Oct. 5) after helping the Yellowjackets to wins over Alaska Anchorage and previously unbeaten Seattle Pacific. In three matches, she had 29 kills and a team-best 16 blocks. Her third-set block ignited a comeback from a 17-11 deficit and she then later had a kill to break a 24-24 tie in a 26-24 set victory over the Seawolves. She finished with 10 kills and four blocks against UAA, then had 13 kills and seven blocks against NNU and then contributed six kills and five blocks against SPU.

CROTTEAU EARNS POW...

Senior outside hitter, Devon Crotteau, was named Great Northwest Athletic Conference Player of the Week this past week. It is her first weekly conference honor of the season. The Casper, Wyo. native recorded 48 kills and 23 digs and hit for a .349 percentage as the Yellowjackets went 1-1 on their recent trip to Alaska. Her 31 kills at Fairbanks are a season-best for the conference and she now

has four of the top eight kill totals in the conference this season. Crotteau leads the GNAC in kills (4.55) and points (5.20) and ranks 14th in career kills (1,114).

CROTTEAU EARNS ALL-TOURNAMENT

Devon Crotteau earned all-tournament honors for her 66 kills and .327 hitting percentage over the weekend. She also earned 42 digs, seven blocks and six aces during the tournament.

A GRAND MILESTONE...

Four Players in MSUB volleyball history have eclipsed 1,000 kills in their career. This season, Devon Crotteau made it five. Crotteau entered the 2009 season just 127 kills shy of the mark. With 19 kills in the final match against University of Mary (Sept. 5), Crotteau had exactly 1,000 kills. With her performance at the MSUB Invite., Crotteau is now fourth on the all-time kills list at MSUB, passing Brandee Sayles (1994-97) with 1,043 kills. Crotteau also became the 22nd player in GNAC history to record 1,000 career kills.

WHAT TO EXPECT IN 2009

Former Fort Hays State coach Steve Smith (44-82, 4 years) takes over at Montana State Billings and has six letter winners available off last year's team, which looks to improve on last season and build a new winning tradition.

Among the six is outside hitter Devon Crotteau (6-0, Sr., Casper, WY – Northern Colorado), who was one of the top kill producers in the GNAC, averaging 3.89 to rank second in the conference.

Crotteau also ranked 10th in kill percentage (.246), netted 3.19 digs per contest and contributed 29 aces and 36 blocks.

Also back are outside hitter Jennifer Boe (5-8, Jr., Casper, WY – Kelly Walsh), setter Hillary Morrison (5-10, Sr., Casper, WY – Chadron State) and libero Jill Trabling (5-8, Sr., Buffalo, WY).

Boe averaged 2.51 kills and 2.75 digs. Morrison was credited with 7.36 assists and Trabling had 3.52 digs.

Smith's first MSUB team will include only two other letter winners – middle blocker Melissa Porter (6-3, So., Redmond, UT – North Sevier) and defensive specialist Whitney Mickelsen (5-4, So., Aurora, UT – North Sevier) – along with five freshmen.

YELLOWJACKETS TABBED EIGHTH...

The Montana State Billings volleyball team was selected eighth in the annual Great Northwest Athletic Conference preseason poll. The Yellowjackets received 15 points behind conference favorite Western Washington with 60 points. Returning for MSUB is one of the league's top kill producers in Devon Crotteau. Last season she ranked



second in kills per game, averaging 3.89. Joining Crotteau as returning letter winners will be Jennifer Boe, Hillary Morrison, Jill Trabing, Melissa Porter, and Whitney Mickelson.

Yellowjackets Ink Two-Sport Product

Kayla Neumiller signed with the Yellowjackets for the 2009-2010 season. Neumiller plans on competing in both volleyball and track & field. Neumiller lettered all four years in high school in volleyball and was an all-state selection as a junior and senior. She was a first team all-conference selection for three years and earned state all-tournament honors as a senior. Neumiller recorded 330 kills, 48 blocks, 83 aces and 406 digs during her senior year and amassed over 1,000 kills (1,026), 211 aces and 161 blocks in her high school career.

Head Coach Steve Smith



Steve Smith begins his first season as the head coach at Montana State University Billings. He comes to the Yellowjackets after four seasons at Fort Hays State University where he guided the Lady Tigers to a 16-15 record in 2005 and a berth in the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference tournament. Smith led FHSU to double-digit wins in two of his four seasons and just missed

his third this past year.

Prior to his tenure at FHSU, Smith served as the assistant coach at Western Oregon University for nine seasons under Judy Lovre, the program's leader in career victories. During his time at WOU, Smith helped guide the Wolves to a 170-122 record, including four-straight appearances in the NAIA National Championship tournament from 1996-99.

Smith also coached various club and high school teams, including the No Dinx Volleyball Club from 2003-05 in Corvallis, Ore., and the Salem (Ore.) Volleyball Club from 2001-03. Smith also served as a club coach for six years (1995-2001) for the Emerald City Volleyball Club in Eugene, Ore., and was the head coach at Stayton High School in Stayton, Ore., from 1993-96.

A native of Salem, Ore., Smith received his bachelor's degree and master's degrees in physical education from Western Oregon University.

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GREAT NORTHWEST ATHLETIC

CONFERENCE STANDINGS

(Nov. 2, 2009)



	<u>Conference</u>	<u>Overall</u>
Alaska Anchorage	11-2	19-7
Seattle Pacific	9-3	15-9
Western Washington	8-5	15-9
Montana State Billings	7-5	14-10
Northwest Nazarene	7-5	14-11
Central Washington	5-7	13-10
Alaska Fairbanks	5-7	11-12
Western Oregon	4-9	7-17
Saint Martin's	0-13	3-19

This Week in the Great Northwest Athletic Conference

THIS WEEK:

Wednesday – Alaska Fairbanks at Alaska Anchorage.
Thursday – Central Washington at Seattle Pacific; **Western Oregon at MSU Billings**; Western Washington at Northwest Nazarene.
Saturday – **Alaska Fairbanks at MSU Billings**; Western Washington at Central Washington; Western Oregon at Northwest Nazarene; Saint Martin's at Seattle Pacific, 4 p.m.

LAST WEEK:

Tuesday – Saint Martin's 3 at Pacific Lutheran 1 (25-17, 22-25, 25-18, 25-19).
Thursday – Alaska Anchorage 3 at Western Oregon 1 (23-25, 25-22, 25-22, 25-20); Alaska Fairbanks 3 at Saint Martin's 1 (25-17, 25-23, 17-25, 25-18); **Seattle Pacific 1 at MSU Billings 3 (25-17, 25-22, 18-25, 25-16)**.
Saturday - Alaska Anchorage 3 at Saint Martin's 0 (26-24, 25-19, 25-19); Alaska Fairbanks 3 at Western Oregon 1 (25-12, 18-25, 25-21, 25-16); Northwest Nazarene 1 at Central Washington 3 (18-25, 25-23, 25-15, 25-16); Seattle Pacific 3 at Western Washington 1 (25-17, 18-25, 25-17, 26-24).

NEXT WEEK:

Tuesday – Saint Martin's at Seattle.
Thursday – Northwest Nazarene at Alaska Anchorage; Seattle Pacific at Alaska Fairbanks; **MSU Billings at Central Washington**; Western Oregon at Saint Martin's.
Saturday – Seattle Pacific at Alaska Anchorage; Northwest Nazarene at Alaska Fairbanks, 5 p.m.; Saint Martin's at Central Washington; **MSU Billings at Western Washington**. (End-of-regular season).



MSUB RECORD WHEN...

Play GNAC Opponent	7-5
Play Non-Conference	7-5
Play at home	6-4
Play on the road	6-5
Play at neutral site	2-1
Play during day	2-2
Play during night	12-8
Play at Top 25 opponent	0-0
Play at Top 10 opponent	0-0
Play at Top 5 opponent	0-0
Wear gold at home	2-3
Wear blue at home	4-3
In August	2-2
In September	7-5
In October	5-3
In November	0-0
Play On...	
Monday	1-0
Tuesday	1-1
Wednesday	0-0
Thursday	3-3
Friday	3-2
Saturday	6-4
Sunday	0-0

NATIONAL POLL

AVCA Coaches Top 25 October 26

Rank	Team	Prev.	W-L
1	Concordia-St. Paul	1	27-0
2	UC San Diego	2	23-1
3	Cal St. San Bernardino	3	24-1
4	Nebraska-Kearney	5	28-1
5	West Texas A&M	6	29-3
6	Central Missouri	4	28-4
7	Emporia State	9	26-3
8	Tampa	7	24-2
9	Washburn	8	27-4
10	Indianapolis	10	30-1
11	Lewis	12	26-3
12	Saint Leo	13	25-2
13	Minnesota State	14	24-4
14	Wayne State (Neb.)	15	24-5
15	Southwest Minn. St.	T-16	21-7
16	Minnesota Duluth	11	19-6
17	Hawai'i-Hilo	T-16	24-1
18	Sonoma State	19	20-6
19	Truman	18	22-10
20	Nebraska-Omaha	20	19-10
21	Cal State L.A.	21	18-7
22	Pittsburg State	24	21-9
23	Wingate	23	29-1
24	Metro State	22	19-7
25	Chico State	25	21-7

Dropped Out: None

WEST REGION POLL

NCAA D-II West Regional October 29

Rank	Team	Prev.	W-L
1.	Cal St. San Bernardino	22-1	19-1
2.	UC San Diego	22-1	16-1
3.	Sonoma State	18-5	18-5
4.	Hawaii Hilo	22-1	19-1
5.	Alaska Anchorage	17-6	16-6
6.	Cal State L.A.	16-7	15-6
7.	Cal State Chico	17-6	17-6
8.	Seattle Pacific	13-8	13-6
9.	Northwest Nazarene	13-8	13-6
10.	Western Washington	14-8	13-7

	MSUB	OPP
ATTACK		
Kills	1095	1129
Errors	502	547
Total Attacks	3167	3310
Attack Pct	.187	.176
Kills/Set	11.6	12.0
SET		
Assists	1038	1057
Assists/Set	11.0	11.2
SERVE		
Aces	142	122
Errors	139	165
Aces/Set	1.5	1.3
SERVE RECEPTIONS		
Errors	121	142
Errors/Set	1.3	1.5
DEFENSE		
Digs	1390	1352
Digs/Set	14.8	14.4
BLOCKING		
Block Solo	48	36
Block Assist	307	281
Total Blocks	201.5	176.5
Blocks/Set	2.1	1.9
Block Errors	22	21
ATTENDANCE		
Current win streak	3	-
Home win streak	1	-

2009 MSUB VOLLEYBALL STATISTICS

##	Player	ATTACK							SET		SERVE		
		SP	MP-MS	K	K/Set	E	TA	Pct	A	A/Set	SA	SA/Set	SE
7	Crotteau,Devon	94	24-	413	4.39	124	1019	.284	28	0.30	37	0.39	19
8	Lutz,Jody	94	24-	119	1.27	39	314	.255	8	0.09	19	0.20	31
2	Morrison,Hillary	94	24-	36	0.38	15	124	.169	908	9.66	17	0.18	21
14	Porter,Melissa	93	24-	133	1.43	77	372	.151	11	0.12	1	0.01	0
1	Boe,Jen	93	24-	263	2.83	153	846	.130	34	0.37	14	0.15	21
4	Moss,Morgan	94	24-	3	0.03	1	20	.100	10	0.11	30	0.32	19
13	Johnson,Hannah	89	23-	117	1.31	82	416	.084	21	0.24	11	0.12	11
5	Trabing,Jill	66	19-	3	0.05	2	24	.042	8	0.12	10	0.15	10
3	Neumiller,Kayla	16	11-	7	0.44	7	25	.000	1	0.06	0	0.00	0
6	Micklesen,Whitney	34	10-	1	0.03	2	6	-.167	7	0.21	3	0.09	7
MSUB		94	24-	1095	11.65	502	3167	.187	1038	11.04	142	1.51	139
Opponents.....		94	24-	1129	12.01	547	3310	.176	1057	11.24	122	1.30	165

##	Player	DIG				BLOCKING					
		SP	RE	Dig	Dig/Set	BS	BA	Total	Blk/Set	BE	BHE
7	Crotteau,Devon	94	24	286	3.04	4	30	34	0.36	2	3
8	Lutz,Jody	94	1	62	0.66	11	84	95	1.01	3	1
2	Morrison,Hillary	94	1	181	1.93	3	39	42	0.45	7	28
14	Porter,Melissa	93	1	17	0.18	15	67	82	0.88	3	0
1	Boe,Jen	93	19	265	2.85	4	24	28	0.30	3	4
4	Moss,Morgan	94	5	181	1.93	0	0	0	0.00	1	1
13	Johnson,Hannah	89	0	23	0.26	10	59	69	0.78	3	4
5	Trabing,Jill	66	26	266	4.03	0	0	0	0.00	0	2
3	Neumiller,Kayla	16	0	8	0.50	1	3	4	0.25	0	0
6	Micklesen,Whitney	34	11	100	2.94	0	1	1	0.03	0	0
TEAM				33							
MSUB		94	121	1390	14.79	48	307	201.5	2.14	22	43
Opponents.....		94	142	1352	14.38	36	281	176.5	1.88	21	37

