

We're the One.

# LONE STAR CONFERENCE VOLLEYBALL

# **WEEKLY RELEASE | SEPTEMBER 24, 2013**

Contact: Melanie Robotham | Assistant Commissioner | Office: 972-234-0033 x. 103 | E-mail: melanie@lonestarconference.org | www.lonestarconference.org | Twitter: @LoneStarConf

## LSC STANDINGS

School	Conf	CPct.	Overall	Pct.	Streak	Home	Away	Neutral
Angelo State	2-0	1.000	8-2	0.800	W2	6-0	0-0	2-2
West Texas A&M	2-0	1.000	9-3	0.750	W3	7-0	1-1	1-2
Tarleton State	2-0	1.000	7-4	0.636	W2	3-0	0-1	4-3
Texas Woman's	1-0	1.000	9-4	0.692	W1	1-0	3-1	5-3
Texas A&M-Kingsville	1-1	0.500	6-6	0.500	W1	1-0	1-2	4-4
Eastern New Mexico	1-1	0.500	3-7	0.300	L1	0-1	1-1	2-5
Texas A&M-Commerce	0-1	0.000	9-2	0.818	W1	1-1	2-1	6-0
Midwestern State	0-3	0.000	7-4	0.636	L3	4-1	1-2	2-1
Cameron	0-3	0.000	4-7	0.364	L3	0-1	1-3	3-3

#### LSC VOLLEYBALL

After one week of Lone Star Conference contests Angelo State, West Texas A&M, Tarleton State and Texas Woman's remain unbeaten.

League play continues this week with one match Tuesday, and three games on both Friday and Saturday. LSC volleyball teams are 62-39 overall this season. The squads are currently 11-8 combined versus Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference teams, and 13-5 against the Heartland Conference, which are the other conferences in the NCAA South Central Region.

# **PLAYERS OF THE WEEK**

#### **OFFENSIVE**

#### Arielle Bond, Angelo State University, SO, El Paso, Texas, El Paso Franklin HS

Bond produced a career weekend with 34 kills in wins over Midwestern State and Cameron at the Junell Center. She established a new career high with 24 kills in a five-set win over MSU before adding 10 in a sweep of Cameron. Bond finished the weekend with a .359 hitting percentage and 4.25 kills per set. An outside hitter, she currently leads the Belles with 106 kills this season and has a .264 hitting percentage through her first 35 sets played. Bond also provided six blocks last weekend and has 14 blocks this season.

### Josie Santos, Texas Woman's University, SR, Sao Paulo, Brazil, Godofredo Furtado

Santos helped the Pioneers to 4-1 record last week including wins against Texas A&M-Commerce, No. 11 Washburn, Arkansas-Fort Smith, and Southern Nazarene. She led the offense with 57 kills while posting a .287 hitting percentage. Santos recorded a career-high 21 kills against Arkansas-Fort Smith and posted a teamhigh in kills in three games. She had a .440 hitting percentage against Texas A&M-Commerce and .395 hitting percentage against UAFS.

#### **DEFENSIVE**

## Morgan Wilson, Texas Woman's University, JR, White Oak, Texas, White Oak

Wilson helped the Pioneers to 4-1 record last week including wins against Texas A&M-Commerce, No. 11 Washburn, Arkansas-Fort Smith, and Southern Nazarene. She led the defense with 96 digs (4.80 per set) including 29 against Arkansas-Fort Smith and 22 against No. 11 Washburn. Wilson posted 15 or more digs in four of the five games last week.

# Laura Iwuchukwu, West Texas A&M University, SR, Edmond, Okla., Edmond North HS

Iwuchukwu continued to dominate in the middle for the Lady Buffs as the senior from Edmond, Oklahoma registered 29 kills on 52 attempts to hit .442 to average 3.22 kills per set. Iwuchukwu also registered 19 total blocks (4 solo, 15 assisted) on the week in nine sets to average 2.11 blocks per set as she added to her average which leads all of Division II. The Edmond, Oklahoma native tallied 10 kills on 23 attempts to hit .348 while registering 11 total blocks (3 solo, 8 assisted) last Tuesday in WT's conference opener at Midwestern State for a double-double.

#### SETTER

# Maggi Jo Keffury, Angelo State University, JR, Arroyo, Calif., Arroyo Grande HS

The transition at the setter position for the Belles has been smooth with the continued strong play of Keffury who transferred to ASU from New Mexico State over the summer. She finished last weekend with 91 assists in wins over Midwestern State and Cameron and now has 371 assists for the season (10.91 per set). Keffury had 54 assists in the five-set win over Midwestern State and finished the weekend with 11.38 assists per set. She also added 22 digs (2.75 per set) and two aces for the Belles.

# Kayla Rivero, Texas Woman's University, JR, McKinney, Texas, McKinney HS

Rivero helped the Pioneers to 4-1 record last week including wins against Texas A&M-Commerce, No. 11 Washburn, Arkansas-Fort Smith, and Southern Nazarene. She ran a 6-2 offense and led the team in assists. Rivero posted 20 or more assists in four of the five games including 36 against Arkansas-Fort Smith. She also recorded three double-doubles in assists and digs.

#### FIRST SERVE

 Two LSC teams are ranked in AVCA poll (Sept. 23): No. 7 Angelo State and No. 12 West Texas A&M.

#### THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

#### Tuesday, September 24, 2013

\*Eastern New Mexico at Midwestern State, 7 p.m. Texas A&M Int'l at Texas A&M-Kingsville, 7 p.m. St. Mary's at Tarleton State, 7 p.m. New Mexico Highlands at West Texas A&M, 7 p.m.

#### Friday, September 27, 2013

Arkansas Fort Smith vs West Texas A&M, 4 p.m. Angelo State at Incarnate Word, 6 p.m. \*Tarleton State at Texas A&M-Kingsville, 7 p.m.

- \*Texas A&M-Commerce at Cameron, 7 p.m.
- \*Texas Woman's at Midwestern State, 7 p.m.

#### Saturday, September 28, 2013

- \*Angelo State at Texas A&M-Kingsville, 1 p.m.
- \*Texas A&M-Commerce at Midwestern State, 2 p.m.
- \*Texas Woman's at Cameron, 2 p.m.

West Texas A&M at St. Mary's, 2:30 p.m.

All times are CST; \* denotes LSC game

#### LAST WEEK'S RESULTS

Complete results at lonestarconference.org.

# **WEEKLY AWARDS**

# **Offensive**

S-10 Laura Iwuchukwu, WTAMU
Maddie Huth, ASU
S-17 Stacie Murrah, TSU
Maddie Huth, ASU
S-24 Arielle Bond, ASU
Josie Santos. TWU

# <u>Defensive</u>

S-10 Shelby Wilt, ASU
Kaitlyn Molloy, MSU
S-17 Emily Klein, TSU
Laura Iwuchukwu, WTAMU
S-24 Morgan Wilson, TWU
Laura Iwuchukwu, WTAMU

# <u>Setter</u>

S-10 Jordan Neal, A&M-C Kayla Rivero, TWU S-17 Jordan Neal, A&M-C Maggi Jo Keffury, ASU S-24 Maggi Jo Keffury, ASU Kayla Rivero, TWU



# OTHER TOP PERFORMERS

Courtney Lawson, Eastern New Mexico University, recorded 24 kills as the Zias began conference play with a 1-1 record including ending a 24-match LSC road conference winless streak and a 16-match LSC winless streak. She averaged 4.0 kills/set while hitting .159 in the two contests. She also had seven blocks with six coming against Cameron. Lawson also recorded a double-double in both matches with 10 kills and 14 digs against the Aggies and 14 kills and 11 digs versus Texas A&M-Kingsville.

Breanne Synder, Texas A&M University - Commerce, recorded a .409 hitting percentage in a sweep of Henderson St...It was her best performance this season...Snyder also recorded two aces against the Lady Reddies...Against TWU Snyder led the Lions with 13 kills in a four set loss to the Pioneers.

Jazmine Green, Tarleton State University, put together the best weekend of her Tarleton career last week, coming off the bench to spark the TexAnns to a comeback, four-set victory over Cameron and a sweep of Midwestern State. The senior from Houston had 22 kills, including a career-high 14 against Cameron Friday night. Her 22 kills for the weekend were second on the team. She led the team in hitting percentage at .390 and scoring 24.0 points for the TexAnns in two games. Green also four assisted blocks and nine digs.

Lauren Bevan, West Texas A&M University, had another standout week for the then No. 15 Lady Buffs as they went 3-0 with a pair of conference wins against Midwestern State and Texas A&M-Kingsville to go along with a win against Southwestern Oklahoma State in Canyon. The Ventura, California native registered 27 total kills on the week to average 3.00 per set while hitting .302 with 63 attempts and just 8 attack errors. Bevan registered 13 kills on 28 attempts to hit .429 on Saturday afternoon as the Lady Buffs rolled through the Javelinas in straight sets to remain perfect in conference play.

Katie Covell, Tarleton State University, was an allaround standout for the Tarleton TexAnns in the first weekend of Lone Star Conference play last weekend. The junior from Lytle played every volley of Tarleton's seven sets recording 23 digs, two blocks, 20 kills and five service aces for a total of 26.0 total points. Covell led the team in aces (5) while coming in second on the team for the weekend in digs (23) and points (26.0). The only TexAnn to have more digs than Covell in the last two games was the libero, Emily Klein (29). Tarleton entered Friday's game having lost two straight, but a double-double effort by Covell helped swing the momentum into Tarleton's favor. She had 12 kills and 17 digs in Friday's match against Cameron before Tarleton turned around to knock off Midwestern State in straight sets Saturday afternoon. In the Midwestern State match, Covell helped anchor a stingy Tarleton defense that held MSU to just an .037 hitting percentage for the match, including a (-).029 in the first game.

Katie MacLeay, Angelo State University, has been one of the defensive leaders for the Belles this season and showcased her abilities with a career high 24 digs in ASU's five-set win over Midwestern State last Friday. A defensive specialist and one of the top servers on the team, MacLeay finished the weekend with 26 digs (3.25 per set) and has now contributed 114 digs this season (3.08 per set).

Bree Anna Lucero, Eastern New Mexico University, paced Eastern New Mexico with nine blocks, three solo, in two Lone Star Conference matches last week as the Zias went 1-1. She had six blocks, two of them solo, in a victory at Cameron and three blocks, one solo, in Eastern's home opener against Texas A&M-Kingsville. Lucero totaled 11 kills

for the week with seven of them and a .312 attack percentage coming against the Aggies.

Kayla Bond, Texas A&M University - Commerce, helped the Lions split two matches this past week against Texas Woman's and Henderson St...In the sweep against HSU, Bond recorded eight digs (3rd highest total this season), 10 kills, .600 hitting percentage, two blocks and three aces...Versus TWU Bond recorded three block assists.

Danielle Barker, Tarleton State University, played every point for the Tarleton TexAnns last weekend, leading Tarleton to a 2-0 start in Lone Star Conference play with wins over Cameron and Midwestern State. Barker recorded 81 assists for the weekend, averaging 11.5 assists per set. In Friday's match against Cameron, Barker topped the 40-assists plateau for the fourth time this season with 43 before turning around for a 38-assist effort in Saturday afternoon's match against Midwestern State. Barker anchored a Tarleton offense that hit .252 in the sweep of Midwestern State. Her 38 assists Saturday now give her nine games this season with at least 30 assists.

Jordan Neal, Texas A&M University - Commerce, tallied another 75+ assist week this past week... It was her third straight...Currently leads the LSC in assists total assists (458) and assists per set (11.74) without playing in the most sets...Recorded a season high in kills with six and tied a season high with two aces versus Henderson St...Accounted for 87% of the assists this week for the Lions and 88% of the assists so far this season.

# LSC NOTES (Submitted by LSC SID's)

#### **Angelo State**

The No. 7-ranked Belles are coming off a 2-0 weekend where they opened Lone Star Conference play with wins over Midwestern State and Cameron at the Junell Center. The wins, which extended their regularseason home winning streak to 23 matches, pushed their home record to 6-0 this season and their overall record to 8-2. ASU was challenged in a five-set match against the Mustangs before sweeping Cameron on Saturday. Arielle Bond led the Belles statistically throughout the weekend with a career high 24 kills against MSU before having 10 kills and a .391 hitting percentage against Cameron. Maggi Jo Keffury lead the offense from the setter position with 91 assists in the two wins, while two-time LSC Offensive Player of the Week Maddie Huth had seven blocks and 15 kills. Leah McWilliams recorded a careerhigh and team-leading 16 kills against CU with Katie MacLeay contributing a career-high 24 digs against Midwestern State. Shelby Wilt finished the weekend with a team-leading 29 digs (3.62 per set) with Haley Bianco adding 23 digs (2.88 per set). ASU travels to play UIW and Texas A&M-Kingsville this weekend.

#### <u>Cameron</u>

The Aggies started off their LSC season with a home 0-3 loss to Eastern New Mexico on Sept. 17, and then two road loses to Tarleton State (1-3) on Sept. 20 and Angelo State (0-3) on Sept. 21. These three loses put the Aggies at 4-7 so far on the season. Errors have plagued CU in the past three matches, hitting 79 of them, which resulted in low hitting percentages in all three matches. Kelle Carver led the offensive attack with 31 kills, while Kat Evans helped out with 18. Kayla Hebert recorded two more double doubles, with 61 assists and 31 digs for the three game stretch. Lauren Acuna and Rebecca Green stood out defensively, as Acuna had 44 digs and Green totaled 11 blocks, with a career tying six against Tarleton State. The Aggies

will host Texas A&M-Commerce and Texas Woman's for a Friday/Saturday double header, and then they will get a visit from St. Gregory's of Oklahoma on Oct. 1.

#### **Eastern New Mexico**

Eastern New Mexico started 1-1 in Lone Star Conference play with a win at Cameron and falling to Texas A&M-Kingsville in the Zias' home opener. With the win against the Aggies, ENMU began conference play 1-0 for the first time since 2005. The Zias also ended a 24-match LSC road losing streak dating back to Oct. 14, 2010 and an overall 16-match LSC winless streak. Freshman Courtney Lawson recorded a double-double in both contests with 10 kills and 14 digs at CU and 14 kills and 11 digs against the Javelinas. Senior Bree Anna Lucero led the squad with nine blocks, three solo, and Lawson added seven blocks. Karra Day averaged 9.33 assists/set (56 total) while Hayley Couch had 5.0 digs/set (30 total) in the two games. This week the Zias play one game at Midwestern State on Tuesday.

#### **Midwestern State**

Midwestern State suffered consecutive Lone Star Conference opening losses to No. 15 West Texas A&M, No. 9 Angelo State and Tarleton State... Senior middle blocker Caitlin Wallace produced a solid week against the top three current teams in the LSC with 2.45 kills and 1.09 blocks per set while posting a .304 hitting percentage... Wallace posted back-to-back 5-block efforts against West Texas A&M and Angelo State... Wallace continues to lead the LSC with a .385 hitting percentage and ranks eighth with 2.92 kills per set... Junior defensive specialist Casey Fletcher notched a season-high 27 digs Friday at Angelo State. It was her third 20-dig effort of the season... Freshman defensive specialist Alyssa Fulgium posted 19 digs in her first collegiate start Friday at Angelo State... Redshirt freshman Madelyn Johnson delivered her sixth consecutive 10-dig effort with a season-high 24 digs Friday at Angelo State... Senior right-side hitter Michelle Blount sparked MSU with seven kills with a single miscue while hitting .500 in two sets off of the bench Tuesday against West Texas A&M... Freshman middle blocker Sarah Garfield produced 11 kills and four blocks in her first collegiate start Friday at Angelo State... Senior Marija Jovanovic notched her third double-double of the season with 55 set assists,113 digs and four blocks Friday at Angelo State... Sophomore Nicole Marzik notched a double-double in her second appearance at MSU with 12 kills and 18 digs against Angelo State... Junior middle blocker Kaitlyn Molloy put down a season-high 13 kills Friday at Angelo State...

#### **Tarleton State**

Tarleton State started its Lone Star Conference schedule strong last weekend, coming back from a first-set loss to hand Cameron a defeat in four before sweeping Midwestern State Saturday afternoon. Tarleton was led in offense by Stacie Murrah, Jazmine Green and Katie Covell - who each topped the 20-kill mark for the weekend with 24, 22 and 20, respectively. Green came off the bench in Friday's match and her career-high 14 kills against the Aggies sparked the Tarleton comeback.

# **Texas A&M-Commerce**

Lions went 1-1 this week with a loss to Texas Woman's in four sets in Denton and a sweep of Henderson St. at home. It was the second sweep of the Reddies this season for the Lions. A&M-C returns to the court on Friday and Saturday this week with a road trip to

Cameron and Midwestern State.

# Texas A&M-Kingsville

2-1 last week.

#### **Texas Woman's**

TWU volleyball team posted a 4-1 record including wins against Texas A&M-Commerce, No. 11 Washburn, Arkansas-Fort Smith, and Southern Nazarene. Senior Josie Santos led the Pioneers' offense with 57 kills including a career-high 21 against UAFS. Senior Marcela Alves was the leader at the net with 22 total blocks while junior Morgan Wilson was the team leader in digs with 96. Junior Kayla Rivero ran a 6-2 offense and posted a team best 127 assists while freshman Kimberly Bell added 90 assists. TWU will play eight of the next 10 games on the road including seven games against conference foes.

# West Texas A&M

The then No. 15 Lady Buffs rolled through three matches in nine sets to improve to 9-3 overall with a perfect 2-0 mark in the Lone Star Conference. WT registered a win on the road at Midwestern State to open-up LSC play before topping Texas A&M-Kingsville and Southwestern Oklahoma State in action on Saturday in Canyon. WT returns to action on Tuesday night as they host the Cowgirls of New Mexico Highlands before traveling to Odessa, Texas for a neutral site match with Arkansas-Fort Smith on Friday and a match at St. Mary's on Saturday afternoon.