

## Volleyball news from the MSU SideOut Club

### Letter from Cathy—Pre-Season Wrap-Up

SideOut Club,

Wow, it seems like it's been such a long time since we've seen you all and we're glad to be back at home to face #12 Illinois and a pesky Northwestern team in Jenison Field House. It was wonderful to see so many familiar faces as we traveled from Cleveland, to Chicago, Clemson, Indiana! The team has now played 14 matches this season and we're happy to say that we're 12-2 after a long stretch on the road. We see daily improvements and although we've had to be versatile in our line-up due to injury and illness, we know it'll benefit us in the long run. The preseason offered us the opportunity to get many different athletes playing time, and that will certainly be an advantage when the time comes for them to get on the court.

We have many upcoming events including a Coaches Luncheon this Thursday, October 1st at Hall of Fame Café (The following Coaches luncheon will be on November 12th) and a chalk talk on Saturday October 3rd at 5:30 in room 209 of Jenison Field House (Additional chalk talks will be hosted on Oct. 17, Oct 31, and November 21.) We hope you'll join us this weekend as it is pivotal that we take advantage of finally being able to play in front of a supportive and energetic group of Spartan Fans! Thank you for your consistent support!

Go Green!

*Cathy George*



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...\*Questions/Comments about the newsletter can be sent to Mike Gawlik @

gawlikmi@ath.msu.edu. If you want something covered in the newsletter, let me know...

## Spartan Accolades

MSU has posted seven different members to all-tournament teams this season - Kyndra Abron, Natalie Emro and Megan Schatzle (MSU Showcase), Allyson Karaba, Vanessa King and Megan Schatzle (CSU Invitational), Natalie Emro and Mischelle Nelson (UIC Invite) and Jenilee Rathje, Natalie Emro and Allyson Karaba (Clemson Classic). MSU saw MVP honors at all four tournaments - Kyndra Abron (MSU Showcase), Allyson Karaba (CSU Invitational), Natalie Emro (UIC Invite), and Jenilee Rathje (Clemson Classic).

• MSU has seen two Spartans receive Big Ten weekly laurels. Sophomore Kyndra Abron was named Offensive Player of the Week following her performance at the MSU Showcase, and junior Allyson Karaba was named Defensive Player of the Week last week, after her performance at the Clemson Classic.

## Spartan Volleyball Tailgate—November 14th

Come out to join fellow MSU fans for the 10th Annual Spartan Volleyball Tailgate on Saturday, November 14, 2009 before the match against Purdue. We will start around 3:30 at the usual location in front of the main entrance to Jenison and continue until game time at 6:30. Bring a dish or grillable item to share. Also needed are grills, charcoal and folding tables. If you can bring a grill, charcoal or folding table, or if you have any questions, please contact Cathy Caswell at 332-4353 or at [caswell@msu.edu](mailto:caswell@msu.edu).

## Letter from the Board—Carole Brogan and Cheryl Bartholic

And the winners are ..... Richard Alban and Ron Hanson ! All SOC members, as of September 15<sup>th</sup>, were put in a hat to win 2 SOC courtside seats. Richard will enjoy the UofM game and Ron will enjoy the Iowa game

**What can you as a Sideout Club(SOC) member do to make the MSU Volleyball program more successful ?**

1. Tell your friends and family about the SOC and invite them to join so we can increase membership in our booster club
2. Ask co-workers, friends, and other volleyball enthusiasts to attend a game so we can increase our attendance at games
3. Purchase MSU volleyball apparel at the merchandise table. Profits go to SOC, so we can donate more money to the volleyball program

One of the benefits of being a member of the SOC is that you receive a free media guide. Please pick up your media guide at next home game at the SOC merchandise table.

Go Green !

Carole and Cheryl

## Question & Answer—Back Row Attacking

**Q:** What is a “Back Row Attack” and how is it used?

**A:** Good Question! Simply put, a back row attack is an offensive attack from a member of the back row. At any one time, there are 3 players in the front row and 3 players in the back row. Each player rotates around the court in such a way that she plays each position. Coaches use substitutions to put defensive players in for offensive a player when she rotates into the back row— for example, you’ll often see defensive specialist Carli Weiler go into the game for Kyndra Abron when it is her turn to serve in the order. When Carli rotates into the front row, you’ll see Megan come back into the game. Now, back to the question at hand. The rules states: only a player in one of the front row positions can attack/spike the ball over the net to an opponent while she is in FRONT of the 3 meter line—the only line on the volleyball court that splits the court into 2 different sections. A player in one of the back row positions MAY attack a ball to the other team IF she can jump from behind the 3 meter line. If we have an attacker in the back row, perhaps Jenilee Rathje or Becca Zlabis, we will purposely set her a ball that is off the net to allow her to attack the ball in hopes of earning a point for our team. A team that can attack out of the back row puts additional pressure on the other team’s blockers, and can open up other hitters, especially when the setter occupies one of the front row positions.



A violation will be called anytime a back row player illegally attacks a ball over the net. Most commonly, you will see this called when a back row attacker steps on the 3 meter line during her approach footwork (both feet must remain completely behind the line without touching it). You may also see it called when a setter in the back row jumps to save a ball from going over the net and knocks the ball over the net accidentally... regardless of the success of the attack, the play is immediately whistled dead and a point is awarded to the non-attacking team. This is simply known as a “back row attack violation.”

Our libero, Allyson Karaba, may NOT attack from either the front row or the back row. This is a special rule that only applies to each team’s libero. If Allyson jumps and attacks a ball over the net, a back row attack violation will also be whistled against the Spartans.



**Volleyball news from  
the MSU SideOut Club**

SideOut Club  
P.O. Box 80491  
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## SIDEOUT CLUB NEWS

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- Michigan match at Breslin Oct 21, 7 pm  
HS Night and 1st 1,000 fans receive free t-shirt
- Parking challenges for Fri, Nov 13rd against Indiana:  
entire JFH lot sold for Men's BB—paid parking in Kellogg Center or IM West.
- Upcoming promotions (always look at the schedule on [msuspartans.com](http://msuspartans.com) for upcoming promotions listed):
- ONGOING - Volley for the Cure: pink tshirts sold to benefit Susan G. Komen; GET IN FREE WITH pink tshirt Nov 21st
- Sat, Oct 3 Hometown Athlete (Freshmen players)
- Fri, Oct 16 Family Fitness Day - participate in 3 of 6 fitness stations and earn a ticket to the UM match
- Sat, Oct 17 Sweetest Day - first 500 in the door receive a free dessert card from Chili's; Hometown Athletes (Sophomores)



<i>President:</i>	<i>Carole Brogan</i>
<i>Vice-president:</i>	<i>Cheryl Bartholic</i>
<i>Secretary:</i>	<i>Shirley Garrity</i>
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### *The Service Line*

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Michigan State University women's volleyball.

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**Website:** [www.msusideout.org](http://www.msusideout.org)