



Service Line

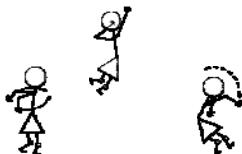
Volume XVI Issue 3

November 15, 2010

Letter from Cathy

SideOut Club,

I hope this newsletter finds everyone well and excited for the final few matches of the season. As you know the Big Ten has been crazier than ever this year. Any team is able to beat any other on any given night! (UM lost to Iowa last weekend...) The tough, and constant, battle with the injury bug has tested our depth, but we are working to get everyone healthy for the final four matches of the season. The team is continuing to work hard and has kept improving in the final few weeks of the regular season. Their consistent commitment to excellence and learning has us optimistic for the remainder of the season and the future of MSU Volleyball.



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November 10 was National Signing Day—which means that 3 of our incoming 2011 players were able to OFFICIALLY sign a National Letter of Intent (NLI) declaring their commitment to Michigan State! We are very excited to add them to our roster and know they will be able to contribute in a variety of ways. Read more about them on the next page!

We are encouraged by the constant support from the SideOut Club as well as the community! Our last home weekend boasted crowds of over 4,000 people each night—aided in part by the fantastic Pajama Event to aid Children with Cancer. It really was a unique night and a wonderful even to be a part of—even if it meant me looking goofy in an MSU Robe!

We look forward to seeing you all this weekend in the Jenison Field House as we take on Indiana/Purdue before battling Michigan in the Breslin Center on Wednesday, November 24th for our final home match (as well as Senior Night!) Go Green!



Home Schedule

Nov 19—Indiana

Nov 20—Purdue

Nov 24—Michigan (Breslin)

DID YOU KNOW?

Junior Middle Blocker Jenilee Rathje is only 25 kills away from 1,000 which will make her the 17th Spartan to reach that milestone?

**MICHIGAN STATE
VOLLEYBALL**

...*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

Spartans Ink 3 in 2011!

Kori Moster-5'4" DS/L-Cincinnati, OH-Ursuline HS

Kori Moster is a solid defender from Cincinnati, Ohio that will help add to the Spartans backcourt for four years. Kori comes from both a winning club (Team Z in Cincinnati) on which she won the National Championship in 2008, as well as a state championship winning high school program. Her maturity and poise on the volleyball court were obvious to our staff from the first time we saw her. We are very excited to get her into our line-up and will look for her experience to help anchor our defensive effort. Fans will really enjoy watching her play as she makes very difficult plays seem routine.

According to Cathy...

"Kori is a proven winner. Every team that she has played for seems to achieve greater heights than they would without her. She has been a noted leader and a captain for most of her teams. There is no coincidence that Kori Moster and championships go hand-in-hand."

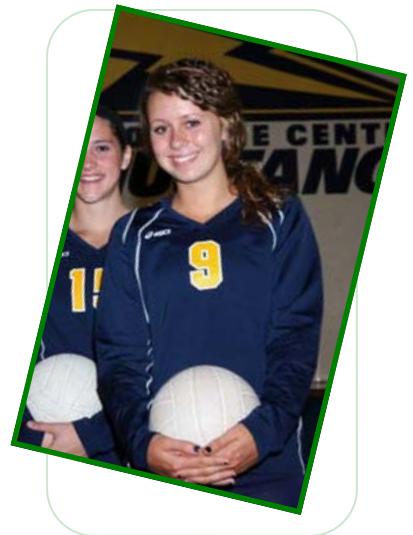


Taylor Galloway-6'0 OH-Portage, MI-Portage Central HS

Taylor Galloway is a home-grown Michigander from Portage where she competes for both Portage Central High School as well as Dead Frog Volleyball Club. Taylor has been honored as All-State by the MHSAA as well as All-American by the AAU at the 2010 National Championships. Taylor is nominated for Miss Volleyball 2010.

According to Cathy...

"Taylor is a very solid all-around player. She has ball control, able to pass, play defense and attack with the best of them. Taylor is one of the top outside hitters in the state. It is her experience and composure that drew us to her."



Jazmine White-6'1" MB/OH-Stoney Creek, Ontario-R.S. McGlaughlin

Jazmine White comes to us from Stoney Creek, Ontario where she played club volleyball under former Spartan All-American Dana Cooke at Element Volleyball Club. We are excited to add her to the 2011 team as she will provide depth at multiple positions for the Spartans.

According to Cathy...

"Jazmine is an excellent athlete out of Canada. She has played at high levels in Canada, both on the court and in the beach. She is a very versatile player that we will be looking to play in any one of the three front row positions. Jazmine is also capable of playing back row, as well."



Spartans Help the Fight Against Cancer

On November 5 Michigan State Volleyball joined the fight against childhood cancer at our match during Ohio State. The support was seen all across the building as the Spartans encouraged their fans to wear pajamas to the match, and were joined by the entire coaching and support staff. Over 4,000 fans helped fill Jenison arena and provided energy for the cause and for the match. The idea for the pajama theme was developed because children with cancer spend months to years in treatment and a large portion of that time is spent in the pajamas. The Spartans are passionate about raising awareness about this issue because even as treatments have improved, childhood cancer remains the number one fatal disease among America's children. This event helped raise awareness of the disease and celebrated the life and fight of so many of these courageous children located right here in our community. We were grateful to be able to partner The American Childhood Cancer Society to make this event a success.



Coat and Canned Food Drive

During the weekend of November 19-20 in our match against Indiana and Purdue, MSU Volleyball will be accepting gently used coats and canned foods and donating them to EVE (End Violent Encounters). EVE is a local organization supporting families affected by domestic abuse. Making a donation with either a coat or canned food (or both!) will earn you free admission into either match!

Don't forget!!!

SideOut club members! Some of you have not picked up your media guide and lapel pin - it's a great benefit of being a member. If you live out of the area and are not able to get yours, please email Carmen at vbops@ath.msu.edu or give her a call at 517.353.1756 to get in the mail to you right away.

Announcements continued...

Successful Alum Turnout

Thank you to all 15 Alums that showed up to Alum Night on Saturday, October 16th! It was wonderful to see former MSU players step back onto the court. Attending Alums played from 1973-2009! Homecoming turned out to be successful as MSU welcomed volleyball Alumnae back to Jenison Field House. The interaction between past and present players exemplified the core values of Spartan hospitality . The Alums returned to the court during halftime where they were welcomed by fans young and old. Autographs were held after the match where alums and current players could interact with fans and bond over a common love for volleyball. It became apparent that no matter the age, each player was happy to be among the comfort of their volleyball family. "The alumni event was great fun. It was good to catch up with some old friends and meet some new ones. And two great wins in one day - football and volleyball what could be better!"- Dawn Andrews Chura



Bust Breslin

Make plans to Bust Breslin!! Bring family and friends on Wednesday, November 24th for the game against University of Michigan. Support our Spartans in the last rivalry game of the season. It's time to break our record of attendees. Get a free t-shirt upon attending the game!

Make sure to take your 50/50 Raffle Ticket into Dagwood's Tavern on any MSU volleyball game day, order a Dagwood's famous burger and get fresh cut fries for FREE!

Question & Answer



Question: Beside scoring a point, what advantage is the block?

Answer: Obviously, we love when the opposing team hits directly into our block and it hits the ground for an immediate point! To Tell you the truth, it's probably the best feeling in volleyball! (Just my opinion...) However, the block can serve multiple purposes for a team. For example, a well formed block can aide the defensive effort of the back row players. When Kyndra and Alexis get big over the net, the defensive players are able to "rule out" places on the court that the ball can be hard driven. By positioning themselves in places that can "see" the hitter (ie, not standing directly behind the block), they put themselves at an advantage to dig the hard hit ball. We call this "channeling the ball to a defender." The defense must be aware of tips and rolls over the top of the block, but usually have more time to react to that type of shot.

The second way a block can be helpful is by slowing down an attack. We don't simply judge the efficiency of our block by the total number of blocks we have at the end of the match. A block may be getting "quality touches" that result in our team being able to counter-attack at the opponent. For example, a hard driving ball that hits the block and goes high into the air on our side, sets us up for an easy transition... While that ball is not counted as a block on the stat sheet... (only straight down blocks count), it still is very much a great play in the eyes of a coach.

Keys to a good block

1. The blocker is penetrated with hands OVER the net at the time the attacker is contacting the ball.
2. The blocker is tight enough to the net that the ball cannot squeeze between their hands and the net, but not soooo tight that they brush the net with their hands and body.
3. The blocker redirects the block back into the court rather than lets the ball hit them and go out of bounds—this play is known as a "tool" since the attacker used the blocker to get a kill.
4. Blockers are hip-to-hip when blocking together. This can limit the amount of balls that go in the seam (the area between 2 blockers) - which is a common shot for the attacker to take, and sometimes a difficult place for defenders to read quickly.



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SIDEOUT CLUB NEWS

Important Dates

ChalkTalk

- November 20th—5:30-5:50 Room 209

Volleyball Banquet at University Club

- Sunday, January 9th, 2011.

Other News of Note:

Best of Luck to SideOut Club Member Peter Morris in the World Scrabble Championships which will take place in Malaysia after Thanksgiving. Peter (US Scrabble Champion in 1989 and World Scrabble Champion of 1991) will compete against 9 other world title winners in a tournament of champions! I hope I'm not

the only one who thinks this is awesome...



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The Service Line

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