



February 2015

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## Service Line

# MICHIGAN STATE VOLLEYBALL

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### U-S-A.... U-S-A...

Hello! Some of our Spartans had a very exciting weekend! Michigan State Volleyball sent three of our players, AVCA Honorable Mention All-American selections Rachel Minarick and Chloe Reinig, as well as Alyssa Garvelink, to the U.S. Women's National Team Open Tryouts. The girls flew out on Friday morning to begin their weekend in Colorado Springs with Assistant Coach Kristen Kelsay, who would be recruiting in Denver on Saturday. They were very excited when it was 60 degrees and sunny when they landed! By the end of the weekend, however, they were predicting two feet of snow! The girls made it back safe and sound after an invaluable weekend. The tryout is a great opportunity for our girls to be seen by the national team. Our players also have the opportunity to get international experience while training with some of the best players in the nation! With the generous donations we get from the SideOut Club, we are able to provide these incredible experiences for our girls! Thanks to all those who help fund these opportunities for our athletes. Stay warm!



## ALUM WEEKEND—SEPTEMBER 25-26, 2015

Calling all Spartan Volleyball Alumni! We have set the date for our Alumni Weekend for the Fall season of 2015. We will not only be recognizing the volleyball alumnus, but the Final Four team from 1995! This marks the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this team's special run—and it is our pleasure to recognize the players, coaches, and staff that were a part of this exemplary team. We will be recognizing the Alumni and the Final Four team on Friday, September 25<sup>th</sup> at our evening match. The following day, September 26<sup>th</sup>, we will have a tailgate outside Jenison leading up to the afternoon



football game against Central Michigan (Alumni: You are able to have a complimentary entry for this football game—please contact Brittany Holbrook for details)! Please stay tuned for additional info and help spread the word to all alums! Go Green!

# MICHIGAN STATE

## VOLLEYBALL

### Banquet Wrap-Up

We are so thankful and appreciative of everyone who attended the banquet this year! We had a great turnout and it was wonderful seeing familiar faces and some new faces as well. This year, our master of ceremony was SideOut Club member and SOC Service Award winner, David Kirkby. David kept us entertained with his witty comments, articulate and accurate volleyball knowledge, and his amusing stories. Head Coach Cathy George opened up the banquet with her pleased review of the season. An exciting and gracious bid to the tournament eventually had us putting up a tough match against #1 Stanford on their home court. There is much to be looked forward to next year and we only know that we are going to improve and go even farther! To kick off the award ceremony, we recognized 8 student-athletes who qualified for the Academic All-Big Ten team this year.

Additionally, Freshmen Alyssa Garvelink and Abby Monson won the team's Most Improved Player and Extra Mile Awards. Sophomore Allyssah Fitterer was selected as the team's Most Inspirational Player, and classmate Chloe Reinig was the recipient of the Playmaker Award. Junior Maggie Halloran, who has maintained a 4.0 cumulative grade point average, was the recipient of the Kirkby Scholar-Athlete Award, and senior libero Kori Moster was named the team's Most Valuable Player. Speaking of Kori, I don't think she was prepared for when M.C. David Kirkby reenacted Kori's infamous yellow card against rival, Purdue. Don't let that sweet smile and height fool you; she can be a feisty one when it comes to standing up for her team!

Our banquet was concluded with an amiable presentation to our seniors from junior, Halle Peterson. We recognized seniors Ryan Hubbard, Jazmine White, Taylor Galloway, and Kori Moster. Ryan had the water works going in the whole room when she asked her teammates to stand in front of everyone in the room, and did their routine cheer led by Ryan for the last time, "Can I get a hoo-rah?!" Currently, we are in the gym with our athletes and preparing for the upcoming 2015 season. Please mark down the dates in the last section of the newsletter for our spring tournaments—we hope to see you there on April 25th!



Maggie Halloran  
Kirkby Scholar  
Athlete



Kori Moster  
Team MVP



Allyssah Fitterer  
Most Inspirational



Academic All Conference Winners



# MICHIGAN STATE VOLLEYBALL

## 2 Additions for 2015

**Evan Licht** comes to the cold weather of East Lansing straight from Santa Barbara, CA where he played Division I volleyball for UCSB for the past 4 seasons. Originally from Manhattan Beach, CA, Evan will fill-in as the Volunteer Assistant coach, a position previously held by Jim Stone. As a stand-out right side attacker, Evan helped lead his team to the NCAA Championship match in 2011. We are very excited to welcome Evan and his



girlfriend Hannah into the Michigan State Volleyball family and are eager to draw upon his experiences in the men's game. Evan has already had an impact in our program and is involved in teaching blocking, video break downs, scouting reports, as well as viewing incoming videos from potential prospects. Evan's role will continue to evolve and we hope he survives the winter without running back to Santa Barbara.

We would also like to welcome **Sarah Washegesic** and her entire family into the Michigan State fold. Sarah will be joining our squad this summer/fall after she graduates in May. Sarah is our only current commitment for the 2015 season, which will

return 13 players from the 2014 campaign. Sarah, a defensive specialist from South Haven, MI plays for Impact volleyball club. Sarah was coached by former manager Brady Compton, who helped put our staff in touch with Sarah while he helped coach at South Haven High School (his alma mater). The MSU Coaches were drawn to her mental toughness as well as ability to make routine plays look easy. As a natural passer, Sarah will add to our current depth in the defensive unit. We look forward to seeing her blossom



Chloe Reinig  
Playmaker Award



Alyssa Garvelink  
Most Improved



Abby Monson  
Extra Mile Award

## Letter From Cathy George

The spring season has begun and I know you are thinking, what spring?!?! For the sake of accuracy I will call this part of our training segment the non-traditional season.... Yep.... that works better! So since January we have been able to work out for a total of 8 hours per week per the NCAA. Of those 8 hours only two can be with volleyball! Obviously that rule gives our strength coach a great opportunity to focus on our strength gains and our fitness levels for approximately 2 months. Once the team returns from Spring break we will then start full team practices for 20 hours a week for 6 weeks. In addition, we are allowed 4 tournament dates. I love this time of

the year because we are able to really focus in on the teaching aspects of each skill. So far we have been working primarily on passing and blocking. We are already seeing the fruits of our labors as the team is making consistent progress and gaining knowledge.

On April 25<sup>th</sup> we will finalize our non-traditional segment with a home tournament which will include an MSU alum team which I am sure you will want to see! Don't forget our annual side out club meeting will be held on this day as well so please save the date!!

Hope you are all are doing well and stay warm!!



## 2015 Spring Schedule

- March 21 @ Aquinas College vs. Michigan, Marquette, and Western Michigan (Grand Rapids, MI)
- March 28 @ KIVA College Tournament (Louisville, Ky)
- April 18 @ Vision Tournament (Indianapolis, IN)
- April 25 \*Home Tournament (MSU, IPFW, Wright State, Ferris State, Northwood, and a team of MSU Alums).

\*Play will run from 9am-5pm in the Jenison Field House. There will be no charge to attend and we will also be welcoming back a team of alums.

We hope to see you and appreciate your support!

