
little east conference

Saturday, Nov. 6, 2004

EASTERN VOLLEYBALL SWEEP IN LEC TOURNEY FINAL
Plymouth State downs Warriors to capture first championship

PROVIDENCE, RI -- The Eastern Connecticut State University women's volleyball team committed 31 attack errors in losing three straight games to Plymouth State University in the championship game of the 2004 Little East Conference Tournament Saturday afternoon at The Murray Center on the Rhode Island College campus. Game scores were 30-20, 30-27, 30-26.

The playoff championship is the first for third-seeded Plymouth (28-11), which needed only one hour and twenty minutes Saturday to capture the crown. The Panthers had been swept by Western Connecticut State University in their first title game appearance a year ago. Fourth-seeded Eastern (21-16) was making its ninth trip to the championship game in the tournament's ten-year history. The Warriors, eliminated by Rhode Island College in the first round for the first time last year, have lost in the tournament final in their last five appearances after winning the first four crowns between 1995 and 1998.

Plymouth, which defeated Eastern in four games when the teams met two weeks ago on the same court, qualifies automatically for its first NCAA Division III tournament, which gets underway with regional tournaments Thursday. Eastern awaits a possible bid to the ECAC New England Division III Tournament.

Although Eastern was guilty of only three service errors and four reception errors, the Warriors attacked at just .059 against Plymouth, committing 31 errors. Eastern fell behind early in Game 1, never getting closer than six points after Plymouth had assumed a 20-7 lead. In Game 2, Eastern erased a six-point deficit to tie the game in the late stages before the Panthers took the lead for good, 26-25. A run of four straight points in Game 3 tied the game at 16-all but Plymouth scored the next four points after calling a time out to seal the victory.

Plymouth attacked at only .054 in the match but rode the performances of juniors Becky Ciulla and Kelly Landry. Ciulla, a starter on Eastern's 2002 ECAC tournament qualifier before transferring to Plymouth last year, led both teams with a .545 attack percentage, 14 kills and 15 digs. Landry added nine kills, five digs and three blocks and was named the tournament's Most Outstanding Player. Junior Kim Krause contributed 12 digs and junior setter Amanda Bagwell 27 assists for Plymouth.

Freshmen **Kellie Knoeckel (MANCHESTER)** and **Emma Sousa (COVENTRY)** led Eastern offensively. Knoeckel attacked at .294 with ten kills and Sousa attacked at .231 with a team-high 12 kills and served 21 balls without an error.

(more)

E-MAIL: molta@easternct.edu

WEB SITE: <http://www.easternct.edu/depts/athletics>

MAILING ADDRESS: Sports Center, Eastern Connecticut State University, 83 Windham St.
Willimantic, CT 06226

22222222

Defensively, sophomore **Marianna Capomolla (STAMFORD)** cleanly handled 20 of 31 reception attempts while senior **Amanda Jassen (WINSTED)** was perfect on 17 attempts. Capomolla and Jassen led both teams with 16 digs each. Knoeckel and Sousa each had two blocks.

Both Eastern and Plymouth had advanced to the title game with five-game victories in Friday's semifinals. The Warriors eliminated No. 1 seed Rhode Island College -- beating the Anchorwomen for the third time in three tries this year -- while Plymouth ended No. 2 seed Western Connecticut's five-year reign as tournament champion. Eastern's marthon win over Rhode Island concluded at 10:30 p.m. and the Warriors returned to the floor at noon Saturday to face Plymouth.

The win over Rhode Island gave Eastern its 22nd 20-win season in the last 25 campaigns. Eastern, Plymouth, Western and Rhode Island all shared the conference regular-season title with 5-2 records. The Warriors had won 14 and lost 20 a year ago under first-year head coach **Jolie Ward** and had lost four of seven regular-season conference matches.

**little east conference tournament
Championship match
at Providence, RI**

Plymouth State U. 3, Eastern Conn. 0

Eastern Conn. (21-16)	20	27	26
Plymouth State (28-11)	30	30	30

little east conference

Wednesday, Nov. 3, 2004

EASTERN VOLLEYBALL ADVANCES TO LITTLE EAST SEMIS
Warriors sweep UMass Dartmouth, will face No. 1 seed Rhode Island Friday

WILLIMANTIC, Conn. -- Senior **Amanda Jassen (WINSTED)** attacked at .667 and served 22 balls without an error to pace the fourth-seeded Eastern Connecticut State University women's volleyball team to a 30-21, 30-22, 30-23 sweep of fifth-seeded University of Massachusetts Dartmouth Wednesday night in the first round of the 2004 Little East Conference Tournament at Francis E. Geissler Gymnasium.

With the win, Eastern (20-15) reaches the 20-win plateau for the 22nd time in the last 25 years and moves into the tournament semifinals Friday night at 7:30 p.m. against Final Four host and top seed Rhode Island College (17-15). In the other semifinal-round match Friday, No. 3 seed Plymouth State University (26-11) meets No. 2 seed Western Connecticut State University (12-17), the five-time defending champion. Plymouth swept sixth-seeded Keene State 30-17, 30-16, 30-14 Wednesday night in the other first-round match. Western and Rhode Island received first-round byes.

Eastern, which has reached the championship match eight times in the last nine years, has swept Rhode Island College twice in two meetings this year. The Warriors failed to reach the championship match for the first time last year when they lost, 3-1 at Rhode Island College in the opening round.

Eastern defeated UMass Dartmouth (15-11) for the 27th straight time and for the fifth time in as many conference playoff matches. The Warriors trailed on only a few occasions in the match, taking the lead for good, 9-8 in Game 1, 10-9 in Game 2 and 4-3 in Game 3.

Four of the last six contests between the teams had been extended to the full five-game limit, including the regular-season match Sept. 17 at North Dartmouth, MA when the Warriors needed to rally from a 2-1 deficit.

Behind Jassen -- who had eight kills in 12 attempts without an error -- freshman **Emma Sousa (COVENTRY)** attacked at .407, collecting a team-high 12 kills with just one error, while sophomore **Lesley Mumford (YARMOUTH, MA)** had 11 kills and attacked at .250. As a team, Eastern attacked at .225 and committed only three reception errors and three serve errors.

(more)

E-MAIL: molta@easternct.edu

WEB SITE: <http://www.easternct.edu/depts/athletics>

MAILING ADDRESS: Sports Center, Eastern Connecticut State University, 83 Windham St.
Willimantic, CT 06226

22222222

Senior **Jessica Leifert (WINSTED)** led Eastern with 22 digs, sophomore **Marianna Capomolla (STAMFORD)** adding 15 digs and Jassen nine. Leifert was perfect on 31 passes -- raising her team-leading percentage to .957 -- while Jassen handled 14 passes with just one error.

Freshman setters **Courtney Fromm (WINGDALE, NY)** and **Meghan Doyle (HEWLETT, NY)** combined for 35 assists, Fromm leading the way with 20.

**little east conference
Women's Volleyball Tournament**

**First Round
Wednesday, Nov. 3
at Willimantic, CT**

Eastern Conn. 3, Massachusetts Dartmouth 0

UMass Dartmouth (15-11)	21	22	23
Eastern Conn. (20-15)	30	30	30

**First Round
Wednesday, Nov. 3
at Plymouth, NH**

Plymouth State U. 3, Keene State College 0

Keene State (9-14)	17	16	14
Plymouth State (26-11)	30	30	30

**Semifinals
Friday, Nov. 5
at Providence, RI (Rhode Island College host)**

#3 Plymouth State (26-11) vs. #2 Western Conn. State U. (12-17), 5:30 p.m.
#4 EASTERN CONN. (20-15) at #1 Rhode Island College (17-15), 7:30 p.m.

**Finals
Saturday, Nov. 6
at Providence, RI (Rhode Island College host)**

Semifinal winners, 1 p.m.

little east conference

Saturday, October 30, 2004

EASTERN VOLLEYBALL STUMBLES AT BRANDEIS INVITE
Warriors drop Saturday pair, close regular season with 19-15 record

WALTHAM, MA -- The Eastern Connecticut State University women's volleyball team closed out its 2004 regular season with losses to Endicott College and host Brandeis University Saturday at the Judges Classic at Auerbach Arena.

After sweeping St. Joseph's College (ME) and Newbury College Friday night -- teams with a combined record of 19-32 -- the Warriors dropped a four-game decision to Endicott (23-30, 19-30, 30-22, 26-30) and were swept by Brandeis (30-24, 30-10, 30-22). Endicott (26-6) is ranked fourth in New England and Brandeis(14-15) has qualified for ECAC post-season play four of the last five years.

In the seven-team tournament, Brandeis won all four of its matches, with Endicott and Plymouth State both finishing 3-1. Eastern and Gordon split their four matches while Newbury and St. Joseph's were both 0-4.

Playing without senior outside hitter and career dig leader **Jessica Leifert (WINSTED)**, junior middle blocker **Chrissie Siranko (DANBURY)** and freshman setter **Priscilla Dougherty (ISLAND PARK, NY)** on Saturday, Eastern (19-15) attacked at just .107, committed 16 reception errors and 14 ball-handling errors. In their two wins Friday, the Warriors attacked at .262 and were guilty of only six reception errors. Leifert missed her first matches of the season due to personal obligations. Siranko has missed nine matches with a shoulder injury and Dougherty was sidelined for the weekend with the flu.

With Eastern starting four newcomers on Saturday, freshman **Emma Sousa (COVENTRY)** had a team-high 19 kills and attacked at .245, also contributing 24 digs and five blocks. Against Endicott, she had 14 kills and attacked at .303. First-year junior **Nicole Tassone (EAST PATCHOGUE, NY)** added 11 digs and attacked at .258. Six-foot-one inch freshman **Kellie Knoeckel (MANCHESTER)** followed classmate Sousa with 13 kills and led all Eastern players with eight blocks. Senior co-captain **Amanda Jassen (WINSTED)** had 11 kills and a team-high 39 digs, first-year sophomore **Marianna Capomolla (STAMFORD)** digging 36 balls.

Freshman **Meghan Doyle (HEWLETT, NY)** handed out 29 assists -- 20 coming againsts Endicott, freshman **Lauren Martocci (SIMSBURY)** collecting 13.

(more)

222222

Having finished with a share of the Little East Conference regular-season title this year, fourth-seeded Eastern faces fifth-seeded Massachusetts Dartmouth (15-10) in a first-round conference playoff match Wednesday at 7 p.m. at Francis E. Geissler Gymnasium.

In search of its 22nd 20-win season in the last 25 years Wednesday, Eastern failed to advance beyond the first round of the tournament for the first time last year when it dropped an opening four-game decision to Rhode Island College.

Rhode Island is this year's top seed and will host the tournament semifinals and final Friday and Saturday at the Murray Center on its Providence campus. The Eastern-UMass winner will take on Rhode Island College in the second of two Friday semifinal-round matches at 7:30 p.m. In the other first-round match Wednesday, third-seeded Plymouth State hosts sixth-seeded Keene State at 6 p.m., with that winner meeting second-seeded and five-time defending champion Western Connecticut State University Friday at 5:30 p.m. The tournament final is set for Saturday at 1 p.m., with the winner being awarded an automatic bid to the 2004 NCAA Division III tournament.

Eastern has beaten UMass Dartmouth the last 26 times the teams have met, is 29-2 all-time against the Corsairs since 1984 and is 4-0 against the Corsairs in LEC tournament play. However, four of the last six matches between the two teams have gone the full five-game limit, the Warriors surviving each time. After losing two of the first three games in the match, the Warriors defeated the Corsairs in five games in the conference opener for both schools this past Sept. 17 at North Dartmouth, MA

A winner of nine straight at one point this year, UMass lost three of four matches this past weekend at the Bridgewater State College Invitational. A week ago, however, Mass stunned Western Connecticut on the final day of the regular season to create a four-way tie for first place in the final conference standings between Western, Eastern, Rhode Island and Plymouth State.

**Brandeis U. Judges Classic
at Waltham, MA**

Friday's Results

Eastern Conn. (18-13)	30	30	30
St. Joseph's, ME (6-17)	22	15	18
Eastern Conn. (19-13)	30	30	30
Newbury College (13-15)	20	20	20

Saturday's Results

Eastern Conn. (19-14)	23	19	30	26
Endicott College (26-6)	30	30	22	30
Eastern Conn. (19-15)	24	10	22	
Brandeis U. (14-15)	30	30	30	

little east conference

Saturday, October 23, 2004

SPLIT GIVES EASTERN VOLLEYBALL SHARE OF LEC CROWN
Conference's regular season concludes with four-way logjam atop standings

PROVIDENCE, RI - The Eastern Connecticut State University women's volleyball team finished with a share of its first Little East Conference regular-season championship in six years Saturday after splitting two matches in conference round robin play at Rhode Island College.

Eastern, Western Connecticut, Rhode Island College and Plymouth State all concluded regular-season conference play with 5-2 records, with Rhode Island College being awarded the top seed for next month's conference playoffs on the basis of tie-breaking procedures.

Eastern (17-12), coming off its lowest regular-season finish (tied for fifth) a year ago, has been seeded fourth this year and will host No. 5 seed Massachusetts Dartmouth Wednesday, Nov. 3 in one of two first-round playoff matches. The winner of that match faces top-seeded Rhode Island College in the second of two semifinal-round matches Friday, Nov. 5 at 4:30 p.m. The playoff final is scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 6 at noon, with the winner qualifying automatically for the NCAA Division III tournament, which begins regional play Thursday, Nov. 11.

Five-time regular-season and playoff champion Western Connecticut was denied a sixth straight regular-season outright title and No. 1 playoff seed after being swept by Massachusetts Dartmouth Saturday.

Saturday, Eastern swept the University of Southern Maine 30-24, 30-19, 30-23 before losing in four games to Plymouth State University 24-30, 30-27, 18-30, 28-30. A win over Plymouth State, ranked No. 13 in New England, would have given Eastern the outright regular-season crown and top playoff seed.

(more)

222222222222

Saturday, senior **Jessica Leifert (WINSTED)** moved to within 41 digs of tying the career record of 1,771. Leifert had 39 digs in two matches, sophomore **Marianna Capomolla (STAMFORD)** adding 36 digs. Leifert also had 25 kills and freshman **Emma Sousa (COVENTRY)** 17 kills. Against Southern Maine, freshman **Kellie Knoeckel (MANCHESTER)** had ten kills and freshman **Courtney Fromm (WINGDALE, NY)** 25 assists. Against Plymouth, freshman **Meghan Doyle (HEWLETT, NY)** contributed 31 assists and Sousa ten kills and four blocks.

Rhode Island was an unlikely candidate to earn its first-ever No. 1 conference playoff seed. The Anchorwomen (16-15) lost their first seven matches of the year and ten of their first 13. They became the first team to defeat Western in a conference regular-season or playoff match earlier this year, then swept two matches Saturday to gain the top seed.

Against the other five teams to qualify for the conference playoffs, Eastern has swept Rhode Island College and Keene State, defeated UMass Dartmouth in five games and lost in four to Western and Plymouth. In addition to the conference win, Eastern swept Rhode Island at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy Invitational Sept. 11.

After reaching the playoff championship in each of the first nine seasons of the tournament, Eastern was beaten in four games last year in a first-round match at Rhode Island College. The Warriors had won the first regular-season conference title in 1998 with a 7-0 record but had finished second from 1999 through 2001, third in 2002 and tied for fifth last year with a 3-4 record.

Wednesday, October 20, 2004

EASTERN VOLLEYBALL SWEEPS WESLEYAN, NOW 16-11
A winner of 9 of their last 13, Warriors tune up for key Little East weekend

WILLIMANTIC, Conn. -- Senior **Jessica Leifert (WINSTED)** had nine kills and 17 digs to help carry the Eastern Connecticut State University women's volleyball team to a 30-18, 30-27, 30-25 sweep of Wesleyan University Wednesday night at Francis E. Geissler Gymnasium.

The sweep is the second this year for Eastern (16-11) over Wesleyan (10-11) and the win is the 20th for Eastern over the Cardinals in this 27-game series which dates back to 1979.

Sophomore **Marianna Capomolla (STAMFORD)** added 12 digs and handled 26 passes with just two errors (.923) in the balanced lineup, which was without senior outside hitter **Amanda Jassen (WINSTED)** and junior middle blocker **Chrissie Siranko (DANBURY)**. Both are recovering from injuries suffered Saturday in a tri-match with Clark University and Newbury College.

A winner nine of its last 13 since splitting its first 14 matches of the year, Eastern also got five kills from freshman **Kellie Knoeckel (MANCHESTER)** and four kills and three blocks from freshman **Emma Sousa (COVENTRY)**. Freshman setter **Priscilla Dougherty (ISLAND PARK, NY)** collected ten of the team's 30 assists, with freshman **Meghan Doyle (HEWLETT, NY)**, **Courtney Fromm (WINGDALE, NY)** and **Lauren Martocci (SIMSBURY)** contributing ten each.

Leifert now has 1,691 career digs and moved to within 81 of establishing a record, currently held by Courtney Davidson. Davidson collected 1,771 digs between 1994 and 1997.

Eastern closes out its Little East Conference regular season Saturday at Providence, RI, facing Plymouth State University and the University of Southern Maine, beginning at 1 p.m. The Warriors are locked in a three-way tie for first place with five-time defending champion Western Connecticut State University and 20-game winner Plymouth State, ranked 13th in New England. The top two finishers in the conference gain a bye into the tournament semifinals.

Eastern Conn. 3, Wesleyan U. 0

Wesleyan (10-11)	18	27	25
Eastern (16-11)	30	30	30

little east conference

Saturday, October 16, 2004

EASTERN W-VOLLEYBALL WINS NON-CONFERENCE PAIR
Warriors win ninth straight over Clark, down first-time foe Newbury

WÖRCESTER, Mass. -- Senior **Jessica Leifert (WINSTED)** had 39 digs and senior **Amanda Jassen (WINSTED)** attacked at .542 when the Eastern Connecticut State University women's volleyball team won a pair of non-conference matches Saturday at the Kneller Center on the Clark University campus.

A winner of six of its last nine matches, Eastern (15-11) swept first-time opponent Newbury College (11-10) 30-15, 30-17, 30-21 and defeated host Clark (6-16) for the ninth straight time by scores of 31-29, 30-26, 24-30, 30-27).

Jassen was successful on 15 of 25 attacks with just two errors for a .542 per cent. Fourteen of her kills came against Newbury, with seven coming on her first eight attempts.

Leifert had 39 digs in two matches to move to within 98 digs of a program record. She has 1,674 in her four-year career, 97 behind all-time leader Courtney Davidson, who had 1,771 in a four-year career which ended in 1997.

Freshman setter **Lauren Martocci (SIMSBURY)** had 37 assists and frshman **Meghan Doyle (HEWLETT, NY)** 35 on the day. Sophomore **Marianna Capomolla (STAMFORD)** added 33 digs. Against Clark, freshman **Emma Sousa (COVENTRY)** had 15 kills, sophomore **Lesley Mumford (YARMOUTH, MA)** 13 kills and freshman **Angela Loomis (MERIDEN)** 14 digs.

Eastern hosts Wesleyan University Wednesday at 7 p.m. before closing out its Little East Conference regular season against Plymouth State and the University of Southern Maine Saturday afternoon at Rhode Island College.

-30-

little east conference

Saturday, October 16, 2004

Women's Volleyball at Worcester, MA

Eastern Conn. 3 (30-30-30), Newbury College 0 (15-17-21)
Eastern Conn. 3 (31-30-24-30), Clark U. 1 (29-26-30-27)

Records: E-15-11, N-11, C-6-16.

Eastern Conn. Statistical Leaders

vs. Newbury College

Amanda Jassen	14 kills
Jessica Leifert:	15 digs
Marianna Capomolla	15 digs
Lauren Martocci	15 assists
Meghan Doyle	14 assists
Nicole Tassone	9 kills

vs. Clark U.

Emma Sousa	15 kills
Jessica Leifert	26 digs
Marianna Capomolla	18 digs
Lauren Martocci	22 assists
Meghan Doyle	21 assists
Lesley Mumford	13 kills
Angela Loomis	14 digs

Eastern hosts Wesleyan U. Wednesday at 7 p.m.

E-MAIL: molta@easternct.edu

WEB SITE: <http://www.easternct.edu/depts/athletics>

MAILING ADDRESS: Sports Center, Eastern Connecticut State University, 83 Windham St.
Willimantic, CT 06226

little east conference

Tuesday, October 26, 2004

WESTERN NE HOLDS OFF EASTERN W-VOLLEYBALL
Three games decided by two points; Bears win deciding game 15-13

WILLIMANTIC, Conn. -- The Western New England College women's volleyball team won the first two games, then held off Eastern Connecticut State University's comeback bid to post a five-game win Tuesday night at Francis E. Geissler Gymnasium.

In snapping a seven-match losing streak, Western New England (17-14) defeated Eastern (17-13) for the second straight year after losing the first 14 matches in this series. Three of the last four matches in the series have been extended to five game, the Golden Bears winning two.

Western New England won the first two games, 30-23 and 32-30 before the Warriors bounced back for 30-22, 33-31 victories. The visitors won the deciding game, 15-13.

Senior **Jessica Leifert's (WINSTED)** tip tied Game 5, 13-13 but the Golden Bears scored the final two points on a kill and Eastern's match-ending attack error.

Four-year letterwinners and co-captains Leifert and **Amanda Jassen (WINSTED)** were playing in the final regular-season home games of their careers. Leifert and sophomore defensive specialist **Marianna Capomolla (STAMFORD)** combined to successfully handle 88 of 90 service receptions and combined for 79 digs. Capomolla made one passing error on 52 reception attempts and had a team-high 44 digs. Leifert made one passing error on 38 attempts and added 35 digs to move to within seven digs of breaking the program career dig record of 1,771.

Jassen had eight kills and 14 digs and did not make an error on 17 reception attempts. Freshman **Kellie Knoeckel (MANCHESTER)** had 13 kills, attacked at .362 and added two blocks. Junior **Nicole Tassone (EAST PATCHOGUE, NY)** had nine kills, six blocks and four service aces. All of her aces came in Game 3, three in succession when the Warriors built a 15-6 lead on the way to the eight-point win.

(more)

22222222

The Warriors survived match point in Game 4 to force the deciding game. With Eastern trailing 30-29, Leifert tied the game with a tip, and Tassone and sophomore **Jessica Keogh (MONROE)** combined on a block to gave Eastern a 31-30 lead. Leifert broke a 31-all tie with a kill and service ace as the Warriors tied the match at two games each.

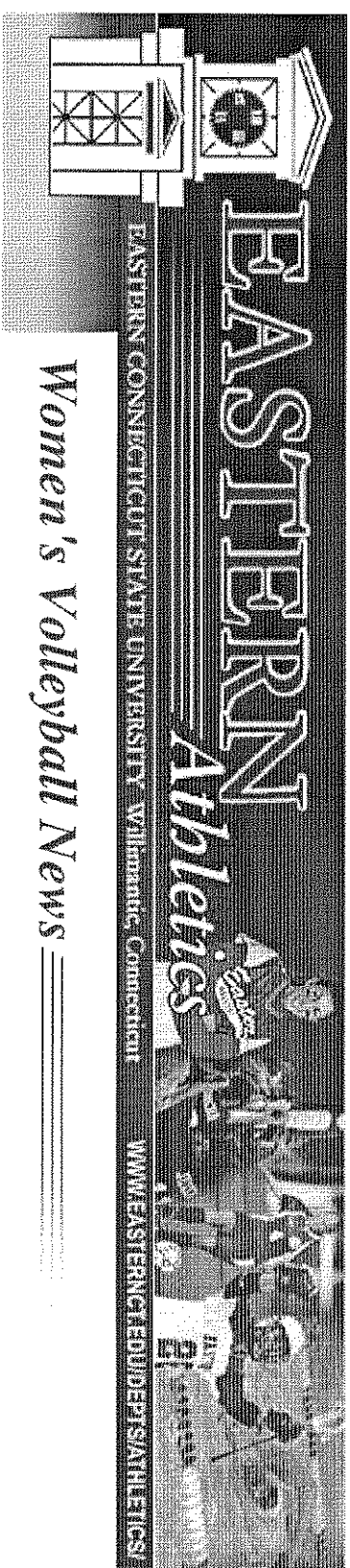
Keough and sophomore **Lesley Mumford (YARMOUTH, MA)** each added four blocks in the match. Freshman setters **Courtney Fromm (WINGDALE, NY)** and **Meghan Doyle (HEWLETT, NY)** combined for 58 assists, Fromm leading the way with 33.

Sophomore Amy Lorinovich (Hampstead, NH) led the Bears with 20 kills, freshman Ashley O'Keene (South Dennis, MA) contributing eight blocks and 48 assists.

Eastern closes out the regular season this weekend with four matches at the Judges Classic, hosted by Brandeis University.

Western New England College 3, Eastern Conn. 2

Western NE (17-14)	30	32	22	31	15
Eastern Conn. (17-13)	23	30	30	33	13



Resources

- Athletic Staff Directory
- Administrative Offices
- Directions
- NCAA
- ECAC
- Little East Conference
- E-Club
- Mission Statement
- Hall of Fame
- Facility Hours
- Cheerleading

Interscholastic Programs

- Fall Season**
- Cross-Country (men)
- Cross-Country (women)
- Field Hockey
- Soccer (men)
- Soccer (women)
- Volleyball (women)

Winter Season

- Basketball (men)
- Basketball (women)
- Swimming (women)
- Track & Field (men)
- Track & Field (women)

Women's Volleyball News

Warriors Re-Gain Share of LEC Regular-Season Championship

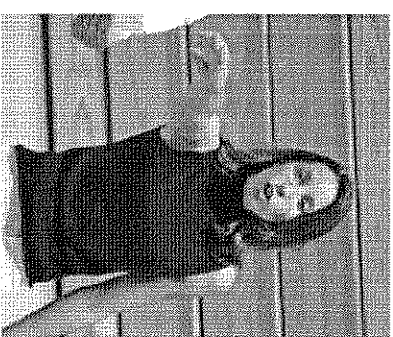
October 23, 2004 9:00 PM

After sweeping USM, four-game loss to Plymouth denies team outright crown

Saturday, October 23, 2004

PROVIDENCE, RI - Women's volleyball finished with a share of its first Little East Conference regular-season championship in six years Saturday after splitting two matches in conference round robin play at Rhode Island College.

Eastern, Western Connecticut, Rhode Island College and Plymouth State all concluded regular-season conference play with 5-2 records, with Rhode Island College being awarded the top seed for next month's conference playoffs on the basis of tie-breaking procedures.



HEAD COACH JOLIE WARD

Under the direction of second-year head coach **Jolie Ward**, Eastern (17-12) has been seeded fourth this year and will host No. 5 seed Massachusetts Dartmouth Wednesday, Nov. 3 at 7 p.m. in one of two first-round playoff matches. The winner of that match faces top-seeded Rhode Island College in the second of two semifinal-round matches Friday, Nov. 5 at 7:30 p.m. The playoff final is scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 6 at 1 p.m., with the winner qualifying automatically for the NCAA Division III tournament, which begins regional play Thursday, Nov. 11.

Five-time regular-season and playoff champion Western Connecticut was denied a sixth straight regular-season outright title and No. 1 playoff seed after losing a four-game decision to Massachusetts Dartmouth Saturday at Keene, NH.

Saturday, Eastern swept the University of Southern Maine 30-24, 30-19, 30-23 before losing in four games to Plymouth State University 24-30, 30-27, 18-30, 28-30. A win over Plymouth State, ranked No. 13 in New

little east conference
Wednesday, October 20, 2004

EASTERN VOLLEYBALL SWEEPS WESLEYAN, NOW 16-11 *A winner of 9 of their last 13, Warriors tune up for key Little East weekend*

WILLIMANTIC, Conn. -- Senior **Jessica Leifert (WINSTED)** had nine kills and 17 digs to help carry the Eastern Connecticut State University women's volleyball team to a 30-18, 30-27, 30-25 sweep of Wesleyan University Wednesday night at Francis E. Geissler Gymnasium.

The sweep is the second this year for Eastern (16-11) over Wesleyan (10-11) and the win is the 20th for Eastern over the Cardinals in this 27-game series which dates back to 1979.

Sophomore **Marianna Capomolla (STAMFORD)** added 12 digs and handled 26 passes with just two errors (.923) in the balanced lineup, which was without senior outside hitter **Amanda Jassen (WINSTED)** and junior middle blocker **Chrissie Siranko (DANBURY)**. Both are recovering from injuries suffered Saturday in a tri-match with Clark University and Newbury College.

A winner nine of its last 13 since splitting its first 14 matches of the year, Eastern also got five kills from freshman **Kellie Knoeckel (MANCHESTER)** and four kills and three blocks from freshman **Emma Sousa (COVENTRY)**. Freshman setter **Priscilla Dougherty (ISLAND PARK, NY)** collected ten of the team's 30 assists, with freshman **Meghan Doyle (HEWLETT, NY)**, **Courtney Fromm (WINGDALE, NY)** and **Lauren Martocci (SIMSBURY)** contributing ten each.

Leifert now has 1,691 career digs and moved to within 81 of establishing a record, currently held by Courtney Davidson. Davidson collected 1,771 digs between 1994 and 1997.

Eastern closes out its Little East Conference regular season Saturday at Providence, RI, facing Plymouth State University and the University of Southern Maine, beginning at 1 p.m. The Warriors are locked in a three-way tie for first place with five-time defending champion Western Connecticut State University and 20-game winner Plymouth State, ranked 13th in New England. The top two finishers in the conference gain a bye into the tournament semifinals.

Eastern Conn. 3, Wesleyan U. 0

Wesleyan (10-11)	18	27	25
Eastern (16-11)	30	30	30

E-MAIL: molta@easternct.edu

WEB SITE: <http://www.easternct.edu/depts/athletics>

MAILING ADDRESS: Sports Center, Eastern Connecticut State University, 83 Windham St.
Willimantic, CT 06226

EASTERN STATISTICAL LEADERS

Nicole Tassone (Jr., East Patchogue, NY)

6 kills, 24 serves with 1 error (.958), 4 aces

Jessica Leifert (Sr. Winsted)

9 kills, 16 serves with 2 errors (.875), 17 digs

Marianna Capomolla (So., Stamford)

26 passes with 2 errors (.923), 12 digs

Kellie Knoeckel (Fr., Manchester)

5 kills

Emma Sousa (Fr., Coventry)

4 kills, 3 blocks

Priscilla Dougherty (Fr. Island Park, NY)

10 assists

WESLEYAN U. STATISTICAL LEADERS

Erin Reding (Jr., Darien)

6 kills

Ginny Hermann (So., Austin, TX)

8 digs, 21 assists

little east conference

Thursday, Oct. 14, 2004

EASTERN VOLLEYBALL SWEEP BY SMITH COLLEGE
Warriors lead late in first two matches but fall, 30-27, 30-24, 30-26

WILLIMANTIC, Conn. -- The Eastern Connecticut State University women's volleyball team couldn't hold leads late in each of the first two games and was swept by Smith College, 30-27, 30-24, 30-26 Thursday night at Francis E. Geissler Gymnasium.

Eastern (13-11) has lost its last five to Smith (12-8) after defeating the Pioneers 22 consecutive times. The win was the 500th for 25th-year Smith head coach Bonnie May.

The Warriors couldn't hold leads of 23-19 lead and 26-23 in Game 1 and 22-18 in Game 2. In Game 3, the Warriors erased an early four-point deficit and moved out to a 16-13 lead before the Pioneers battled back to take the lead for good, 18-17.

Senior **Jessica Leifert (WINSTED)** led Eastern with 21 digs and 11 kills, senior **Amanda Jassen (WINSTED)** adding 19 digs and seven kills, sophomore **Marianna Copomolla (STAMFORD)** 14 digs and junior **Chrissie Siranko (DANBURY)** 11 kills and three blocks. Freshman setters **Meghan Doyle (HEWLETT, NY)** and **Lauren Martocci (SIMSBURY)** combined for 31 assists.

The Warriors committed just one reception error on 82 attempts -- with Jassen (28), Leifert (21) and Copomolla (15) combining for 64 errorless passes. As a team, however, Eastern attacked at just .120, with Siranko the top player in that department with a .292 percentage.

All-region junior outside hitter Kate Sorensen led Smith with 19 kills and 13 digs, junior Lauren Perry setting 19 assists.

Eastern travels to Worcester, MA Saturday to face Newbury College at 1 p.m. and Clark University at 3 p.m.

E-MAIL: molta@easternct.edu

WEB SITE: <http://www.easternct.edu/depts/athletics>

MAILING ADDRESS: Sports Center, Eastern Connecticut State University, 83 Windham St.
Willimantic, CT 06226

little east conference

Thursday, Oct. 14, 2004

**Women's Volleyball
at Willimantic, CT**

Smith College 3 (30-30-30), Eastern Conn. 0 (27-24-26)

Team records: S-12-8, E-13-11

Top performers:

Smith College

Kate Sorensen	19 kills, 13 digs
Lauren Perry	19 assists
Deborah Sasges	10 digs

Eastern Conn.

Jessica Leifert	11 kills, 21 digs
Chrissie Siranko	11 kills
Lesley Mumford	8 kills
Amanda Jassen	7 kills, 19 digs
Marianna Capomolla	14 digs
Meghan Doyle	16 assists
Lauren Martocci	15 assists

Note: 25th-year Smith head coach **Bonnie May** recorded her 500th career win.

E-MAIL: molta@easternct.edu

WEB SITE: <http://www.easternct.edu/depts/athletics>

MAILING ADDRESS: Sports Center, Eastern Connecticut State University, 83 Windham St.
Willimantic, CT 06226

little east conference

Saturday, October 9, 2004

EASTERN W-VOLLEYBALL 2nd AT CRABTREE CLASSIC
Warriors lose two five-game decisions to champion Johnson & Wales

WILLIMANTIC, Conn. -- Johnson & Wales University erased first-game losses to Eastern Connecticut State University twice in the tournament -- the second time in the championship match -- and went on to win the title of the 24th Annual Crabtree Classic Women's Volleyball Invitational Saturday at Francis E. Geissler Gymnasium.

Johnson & Wales (17-12) won all five of its tournament matches, winning 15 of 19 games en route to its first tournament title. While all four of their game losses came at the hands of Eastern (13-10), the Wildcats rallied from first-game losses to defeat the Warriors twice in five-games decisions.

Eastern reached the championship match of its own tournament for the fourth straight season (winning the 2002 title) by sweeping Lasell College and Pool B champion Emmanuel College in elimination play earlier Saturday.

In the five-game final, tournament MVP Annemarie Proto had 20 kills and eight digs in sparking the Wildcats to a come-from-behind win over the Warriors by scores of 19-30, 32-30, 34-32, 23-30 and 15-8. All-tournament setter Audra Vaccari of Johnson & Wales added 50 assists and eight kills in the final. Shephanie Cropper contributing 14 kills and eight digs. In the final, Eastern senior **Jessica Leifert (WINSTED)** had 20 kills and 29 digs, senior **Amanda Jassen (WINSTED)** 15 kills and 27 digs, sophomore **Marianna Capomolla (STAMFORD)** 43 digs and freshman **Kellie Knoeckel (MANCHESTER)** 14 kills.

The Warriors opened the tournament by sweeping sub-.500 opponents Babson College and Saint Joseph College (CT) Friday, but were relegated to second place in their pool with a 30-26, 29-31, 26-30, 30-13, 6-15 loss to Johnson & Wales Saturday morning in a battle of unbeatens. After winning the first game against the Wildcats in the pool final, Eastern lost Game 2 after serving for game point.

In elimination play, the Warriors remained alive by sweeping Lasell College in the quarterfinals and Pool B champion Emmanuel College in the semifinals. Sparking the Warriors against Emmanuel (14-5) in the team's best tournament showing were Jassen.

(more)

E-MAIL: molta@easternct.edu

WEB SITE: <http://www.easternct.edu/depts/athletics>

MAILING ADDRESS: Sports Center, Eastern Connecticut State University, 83 Windham St.
Willimantic, CT 06226

2222222

junior **Chrissie Siranko (DANBURY)** and freshman **Emma Sousa (COVENTRY)**. The trio combined for 28 kills and a .421 attack percentage. In that match, Leifert and Capomolla combined for 35 digs and handled 48 of 50 passes successfully, while Capomolla and junior **Nicole Tassone (EAST PATCHOGUE, NY)** combined for nine service aces.

Leifert and Sousa represented Eastern on the all-tournament team. Leifert had 70 kills and 102 digs in the tournament and handled 124 of 133 passes successfully (.932 per cent). Sousa had 39 kills. In the tournament, Jassen had 62 kills and 73 digs, Capomollo contributed 95 digs and handled 111 passes with just eight errors (.928 per cent). Freshman setters **Meghan Doyle (HEWLETT, NY)** and **Priscilla Dougherty (ISLAND PARK, NY)** combined for 151 assists.

Eastern hosts Smith College Thursday at 7 p.m.

little east conference

Wednesday, Sept. 29, 2004

EASTERN VOLLEYBALL REMAINS UNBEATEN IN LEC *Warriors sweep Keene State to raise Little East record to 4-0*

WILLIMANTIC, Conn. -- Senior outside hitter **Jessica Leifert (WINSTED)** had nine kills, 13 digs and handled 20 passes without an error to help the Eastern Connecticut State University women's volleyball team to a 3-0 Little East Conference sweep of Keene State College Wednesday night at Francis E. Geissler Gymnasium. Game scores were 30-22, 30-24, 30-23.

The win is the fourth without a loss in conference play for Eastern ((9-7), which defeated Keene State (2-7, 1-3 little east) for the ninth straight time in conference play. The Warriors have won 27 of 28 games in those nine matches.

In additon to Leifert, top Eastern performers included senior **Amanda Jassen (WINSTED)**, junior **Chrissie Siranko (DANBURY)**, sophomore **Jessica Keough (MONROE)** and freshman setter **Priscilla Dougherty (ISLAND PARK, NY)**. Jassen had five kills and eight digs; Siranko eight kills, a .250 attack percentage and three blocks; Keough eight digs; and Dougherty eight digs, 18 set assists and two service aces. Freshman setter **Courtney Fromm (WINGDALE, NY)** 12 assists and three service aces.

Eastern visits five-time defending conference champion Western Connecticut State University Tuesday at 6 p.m.

Eastern Conn. 3, Keene State College 0

Keene State (2-7, 1-3 little east)	22	24	23
Eastern Conn. (9-7, 4-0 little east)	30	30	30

E-MAIL: molta@easternct.edu

WEB SITE: <http://www.easternct.edu/depts/athletics>

MAILING ADDRESS: Sports Center, Eastern Connecticut State University, 83 Windham St.
Willimantic, CT 06226

little east conference

Saturday, Sept. 25, 2004

EASTERN W-VOLLEYBALL SWEEPS WESLEYAN TO END SKIDS
Following two well-played losses, Warriors victorious at Amherst Invite

AMHERST, Mass. -- Two losing streaks came to an end when the Eastern Connecticut State University women's volleyball team swept Wesleyan University in its final match at the Amherst College Classic Saturday afternoon at LeFrak Gymnasium.

Junior middle blocker **Chrissie Siranko (DANBURY)** attacked at .312 and freshman setter **Courtney Fromm (WINGDALE, NY)** contributed 11 assists in her only tournament appearance as the Warriors (8-7) stopped a season-high four-match losing streak with a 30-22, 30-26, 30-20 conquest of the Cardinals (4-6).

By snapping a three-match losing streak at the hands of Wesleyan and a three-match losing streak in this tournament, Eastern finishes in fifth place in the six-team tournament.

Eastern was playing for a fifth-place finish after being swept by unbeaten Amherst College Friday and by Muhlenberg College Saturday in pool play. Ranked fifth in New England, Amherst had enough to prevail over Eastern for the fourth straight year in this tournament, 30-28, 30-22, 30-25. Muhlenberg held off the Warriors by scores of 30-27, 30-27, 30-26.

After winning the opening game against Wesleyan, Eastern erased a 22-19 in Game 2, scoring four straight points late in the game to take control. The Warriors built an early 11-6 lead in Game 3 and was able to maintain that advantage. Four consecutive service aces by senior **Jessica Leifert (WINSTED)** doubled the lead to eight points, 26-18.

In that match, Siranko had six kills in 16 attempts with just one error and Fromm had 11 of the team's 27 set assists. In addition to her aces, Leifert had 15 digs and was perfect on 16 passes. Sophomore **Marianna Capomolla (STAMFORD)** handled 23 passes with one error and also collected 16 digs.

Senior **Amanda Jassen (WINSTED)** represented Eastern on the all-tournament team. In nine tournament games, Jassen had 20 kills, 30 digs and three service aces.

Eastern returns to Little East Conference play Wednesday, hosting Keene State College at 6 p.m. The Warriors are 3-0 in the conference.

E-MAIL: molta@easternct.edu

WEB SITE: <http://www.easternct.edu/depts/athletics>

MAILING ADDRESS: Sports Center, Eastern Connecticut State University, 83 Windham St.
Willimantic, CT 06226

Saturday, Sept. 25, 2004

**Women's Volleyball
Amherst College Classic
Friday's Result**

Amherst College 3 (30-30-30), Eastern Conn. 0 (28-22-25)

Saturday's Results

Muhlenberg College 3 (30-30-30), Eastern Conn. 0 (27-27-26)

Eastern Conn. 3 (30-30-30), Wesleyan U. 0 (22-26-20)

TOURNAMENT STATISTICAL LEADERS

Amanda Jassen

20 kills, 30 digs, 3 service aces

Jessica Leifert

19 kills; 43 digs; 53 passes, 1 error (.981 pccet.), 5 service aces

Marianna Capomolla

32 digs; 67 passes, 3 errors (.955 pct.)

Priscilla Dougherty

34 assists, 23 digs

Meghan Doyle

32 assists

Nicole Tassone

6 blocks, 10 kills

Chrissie Siranko

17 kills, 4 blocks

little east conference

Saturday, Sept. 25, 2004

**Women's Volleyball
Amherst College Classic
at Amherst, MA**

Friday's Result

Amherst College 3 (30-30-30), Eastern Conn. 0 (28-22-25)

Saturday's Results

Muhlenberg College 3 (30-30-30), Eastern Conn. 0 (27-27-26)
Eastern Conn. 3 (30-30-30), Wesleyan U. 0 (22-26-20)

Records: E-8-7, A-10-0, W-4-6

Note: Amanda Jassen represented Eastern on the all-tournament team.

EASTERN CONN. STATISTICAL LEADERS

Amanda Jassen (Sr., WINSTED)

20 kills, 30 digs, 3 service aces

Jessica Leifert (Sr., WINSTED)

19 kills; 43 digs; 53 passes, 1 error (.981 pect.), 5 service aces

Marianna Capomolla (So., STAMFORD)

32 digs; 67 passes, 3 errors (.955 pct.)

Priscilla Dougherty (Fr., ISLAND PARK, NY)

34 assists, 23 digs

Meghan Doyle (Fr., HEWLETT, NY)

32 assists

Nicole Tassone (Jr., EAST PATCHOGUE, NY)

6 blocks, 10 kills

Chrissie Siranko (Jr., DANBURY)

17 kills, 4 blocks

E-MAIL: molta@easternct.edu

WEB SITE: <http://www.easternct.edu/depts/athletics>

MAILING ADDRESS: Sports Center, Eastern Connecticut State University, 83 Windham St.
Willimantic, CT 06226

little east conference

Thursday, Sept. 23, 2004

EASTERN VOLLEYBALL FALLS IN FOUR GAMES TO RWU
Warriors give up final six points in pivotal Game 3 in loss to Hawks

WILLIMANTIC, Conn. -- The Eastern Connecticut State University women's volleyball team allowed Roger Williams University to score the final six points of the pivotal Game 3, then escape from game point in Game 4 in a four-game loss to the Hawks Thursday night in the Warriors' 2004 home-opener at Francis E. Geissler Gymnasium.

The first three games were all decided by scores of 30-26 -- Roger Williams winning the first and third. In Game 4, the Hawks survived game point to win, 31-29. With the victory, Roger Williams (12-2) snaps an 11-match losing streak at the hands of Warriors (7-5), ranked 15th in Division III.

Roger Williams scored the final four points to capture Game 1 before the Warriors led from start to finish in Game 2, building a seven-point lead, ten holding on after the Hawks pulled to within two. Eastern led Game 3 26-24 and led Game 4 29-28 before committing one service error and two attack errors that handed the Hawks the final three points.

Senior **Amanda Jassen (WINSTED)** led Eastern with 17 kills and 12 digs and handled 21 passes with just two errors; senior **Jessica Leifert (WINSTED)** had 11 kills, six service aces, 24 digs and four block assists and handled 40 passes with just one error; sophomore **Marianna Capomolla (STAMFORD)** had 21 digs and freshman **Kellie Knoeckel (MANCHESTER)** ten kills and eight blocks; freshman setters **Meghan Doyle (HEWLETT, NY)** and **Lauren Martocci (SIMSBURY)** combined for 31 set assists.

Eastern competes in the Amherst College Classic this weekend. The Warriors face host Amherst Friday at 7:30 p.m. and Muhlenberg Saturday at 9 a.m.

**Women's Volleyball
at Willimantic, Conn.**

Roger Williams U. (12-2)	30	26	30	31
Eastern Conn. (7-5)	26	30	26	29

E-MAIL: molta@easternct.edu

WEB SITE: <http://www.easternct.edu/depts/athletics>

MAILING ADDRESS: Sports Center, Eastern Connecticut State University, 83 Windham St.
Willimantic, CT 06226

little east conference

Tuesday, Sept. 21, 2004

EASTERN VOLLEYBALL SWEEP BY TRINITY COLLEGE
Four-match winning streak snapped in 30-20, 30-20, 30-22 losses to Bantams

HARTFORD, Conn. -- The Eastern Connecticut State University women's volleyball team had more attack errors than kills and was swept by Trinity College 30-20, 30-20, 30-22 in a non-conference match Tuesday night at Ray Oosting Gymnasium.

Eastern (7-4), ranked 14th in New England, had a four-match winning streak snapped after losing to Trinity (1-2) for the third time in four years.

After winning their opening three Little East Conference matches this past weekend, Eastern attacked at a negative percentage against Trinity, amassing 21 attack errors and compiling only 20 kills in 112 attempts.

In the loss, Eastern averaged over 24 digs per game, led by senior **Jessica Leifert (WINSTED)** and first-year sophomore **Marianna Capomolla (STAMFORD)**. Leifert came up with 25 digs, Capomolla 13.

Defensively, first-year junior **Nicole Tassone (EAST PATCHOGUE, NY)** and sophomore **Lesley Mumford (YARMOUTH, MA)** combined for nine blocks while Capomolla was successful on 24 of 25 passes and Leifert 21 of 23.

Freshman setters **Priscilla Dougherty (ISLAND PARK, NY)** and **Meghan Doyle (HEWLETT, NY)** each had five set assists.

Eastern makes its home debut Thursday at 7 p.m., hosting Roger Williams University in a non-conference match at Geissler Gym.

E-MAIL: molta@easternct.edu

WEB SITE: <http://www.easternct.edu/depts/athletics>

MAILING ADDRESS: Sports Center, Eastern Connecticut State University, 83 Windham St.
Willimantic, CT 06226

little east conference

Saturday, Sept. 18, 2004

EASTERN W-VOLLEYBALL WINS THREE IN LITTLE EAST

Warriors come from behind to catch UMass Dartmouth in weekend opener

NORTH DARTMOUTH, Mass. -- Senior co-captain **Jessica Leifert (WINSTED)** had 45 kills and 46 digs to help the Eastern Connecticut State University women's volleyball team to a 3-0 weekend in Little East Conference play at the Tripp Athletic Center.

Eastern (7-3, 3-0 little east), ranked 14th in New England, rallied past Massachusetts Dartmouth 30-26, 25-30, 14-30, 30-26 and 15-9 Friday night, then swept Massachusetts Boston 30-22, 30-20, 30-26 and Rhode Island College 30-22, 30-20, 30-26 Saturday.

The sweep is the second in as many matches this year for Eastern over Rhode Island (3-8, 2-1 little east), which had eliminated the Warriors in the first round of last year's conference tournament. Prior to last year, the Warriors had reached the conference playoff final each year.

In Friday's comeback win over UMass Dartmouth (3-6, 1-2 little east), Leifert had 20 kills and 29 digs and committed just one error on 33 passes while senior co-captain **Amanda Jassen (WINSTED)** had 20 digs and handled 20 passes with just one error.

In Saturday's win over Rhode Island, Leifert had 18 kills and committed just three attack errors on 36 attempts.

In three matches, Leifert had just three errors on 55 passes and Jassen only three errors on 44 passes. Jassen also contributed 20 kills and 34 digs in three matches. Leifert led all players with a .254 attack percentage, with Jassen right behind at .250. On the weekend, four Eastern freshman setters combined for 119 of the team's 133 assists: **Meghan Doyle (HEWLETT, NY)** 43, **Priscilla Dougherty (ISLAND PARK, NY)** 24, **Courtney Fromm (WINGDALE, NY)** 22 and **Lauren Martocci (SIMSBURY)** 20. Dougherty was one of four players with at least 20 digs, collecting 22. Also in double figures were Keogh (17), Doyle (14) and freshman **Angela Peoples (VOLUNTOWN)** with 13.

(more)

E-MAIL: molta@easternct.edu

WEB SITE: <http://www.easternct.edu/depts/athletics>

MAILING ADDRESS: Sports Center, Eastern Connecticut State University, 83 Windham St.
Willimantic, CT 06226

22222222

On the weekend, junior **Chrissie Siranko (DANBURY)** led Eastern at the net with four block solos and four block assists, with freshman **Kellie Knoeckel (MANCHESTER)** adding three block solos and four block assists. Seven of Siranko's blocks came against UMass Dartmouth. Sophomore **Marianna Capomolla (STAMFORD)** added 27 digs and was successful on 37 of 42 passes in three matches.

In addition to Leifert and Jassen, other top offensive players for Eastern in the three wins were Siranko with 22 kills, sophomore **Jessica Keogh (MONROE)** with 18, sophomore **Lesley Mumford (YARTMOUTH, MA)** with 12 and first-year junior **Nicole Tassone (EAST PATCHOGUE, NY)** 11.

The Warriors compiled 30 service aces in the three wins, led by Jassen (6), Leifert (5) and Martocci (5).

Eastern visits Trinity College (CT) Tuesday at 7 p.m.

little east conference

Wednesday, Sept. 15, 2004

EASTERN VOLLEYBALL HOLDS OFF ST. JOSEPH'S, NY

Leifert, Jassen lead Warriors to 3-1 victory over Golden Eagles

PATCHOGUE, NY – Senior co-captains **Jessica Leifert (WINSTED)** and **Amanda Jassen (WINSTED)** combined for 31 kills, 41 digs and four service aces to help carry the Eastern Connecticut State University women's volleyball team to a 3-1 win over St. Joseph's College Wednesday night at the John A. Danzi Athletic Center.

In the first meeting ever between the programs, Eastern (4-3) struggled in the first two games – surviving game point to score the final four points in an opening 31-29 – and losing the second game, 30-21. Behind the serving of first-year sophomore **Marianna Capomolla (STAMFORD)**, Eastern gained the momentum midway through Game 3 en route to a 30-22 win, then scored the final four points to end the match with a 30-26 victory in Game 4.

Leifert, who contributed a kill, service ace and assist in the run of four match-ending points, led all Eastern players with 21 kills a .292 attack percentage, 27 digs, 37 passes and a .942 pass percentage. Jassen followed with ten kills and 14 digs. Each had two service aces.

Sophomore **Jessica Keogh (MONROE)** added 13 digs and two service aces and handled 15 passes without an error; Capomolla served 19 balls with just one error and added two service aces; freshman setter **Meghan Doyle (HEWLETT, NY)** had 30 assists, ten of which came in the final game.

In all, 13 players saw action, with nine contributing to the team's 14 service aces and four collecting at least ten digs.

Eastern opens its Little East Conference season this weekend at North Dartmouth, MA. The Warriors face UMass Dartmouth Friday at 7 p.m., UMass Boston Saturday at 10 a.m. and Rhode Island College Saturday at noon.

E-MAIL: molta@easternct.edu

WEB SITE: <http://www.easternct.edu/depts/athletics>

MAILING ADDRESS: Sports Center, Eastern Connecticut State University, 83 Windham St.
Willimantic, CT 06226

little east conference

Saturday, Sept. 11, 2004

EASTERN W-VOLLEYBALL GOES 1-2 AT USCGA INVITE
Senior Jessica Leifert named to all-tournament team for third straight year

NEW LONDON, CT -- Senior **Jessica Leifert (WINSTED)** had seven digs and handled 22 passes with only two errors to lead the Eastern Connecticut State University women's volleyball team to a three-game sweep of Rhode Island College Saturday at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy Invitational.

The Warriors (3-3) were swept by Tufts University (2-1) 9-30, 23-30, 26-30 in their tournament opener Saturday morning, rebounded to sweep Rhode Island (0-7) 30-21, 30-20, 31-29 and closed out by losing to tournament champion Coast Guard (5-0) (20-30, 30-25, 25-30, 17-30).

Against Little East Conference opponent Rhode Island, Eastern defeated the Anchorwomen for the 31st time in the last 33 matches, snapping a two-match losing streak at the hands of RIC. In addition to Leifert, senior **Amanda Jassen (WINSTED)** had eight kills and attacked at .333 against Rhode Island and freshman **Emma Sousa (COVENTRY)** had six block assists and two block solos. Freshman **Priscilla Dougherty (ISLAND PARK, NY)** contributed seven digs and 11 set assists and served 16 balls without an error. Sophomore **Jessica Keogh (MONROE)** added seven kills, eight digs and two block assists, did not commit an error on 12 passes and served 15 balls with just error. Freshman **Marianna Capomolla (STAMFORD)** had three of the team's ten service aces against Rhode Island and made only four errors on 40 passes against Coast Guard.

Leifert was named to the Coast Guard all-tournament team for the third straight year. In ten games, she had 46 digs -- 29 coming against Coast Guard -- and 21 kills and committed only seven errors on 72 passes (.903 per cent).

Eastern visits St. Joseph's-Patchogue, NY Wednesday at 7 p.m.

E-MAIL: molta@easternct.edu

WEB SITE: <http://www.easternct.edu/depts/athletics>

MAILING ADDRESS: Sports Center, Eastern Connecticut State University, 83 Windham St.
Willimantic, CT 06226

little east conference

Wednesday, Sept. 8, 2004

EASTERN W-VOLLEYBALL CATCHES CONN COLLEGE

For second time in three matches, Warriors win in five after losing first two

NEW LONDON, Conn. -- For the second time in three matches, the Eastern Connecticut State University women's volleyball team won three straight games after dropping the first two, defeating Connecticut College Wednesday night at the Charles Luce Fieldhouse.

On Saturday, the Warriors opened their season with a five-game victory over Eastern Nazarene College after losing the first two games. Wednesday, Eastern rallied to post 30-27, 30-24, 15-10 victories after losing the first two games, 30-27, 30-21.

Against Conn, Eastern (2-1) won Game 3 by scoring the final six points to wipe out a 27-24 deficit, first-year junior **Nicole Tassone (BELLPORT, NY)** serving those final points. Behind the serving of sophomore **Jessica Keogh (MONROE)** and the setting of freshman **Priscilla Dougherty (ISLAND PARK, NY)**, the Warriors scored four straight points to build a late 28-19 lead on the way to the win in Game 4. In the deciding game, Eastern scored seven straight points -- Tassone serving the final six straight -- to take command, 8-2. Freshman **Emma Sousa (COVENTRY)** and senior co-captain **Amanda Jassen (WINSTED)** each had two kills in the final game.

Thirteen players saw significant action in the match, with freshmen **Meghan Doyle (HEWLETT, NY)**, Dougherty and **Courtney Fromm (WINGDALE, NY)** rotating at the setter position and combining for 41 set assists.

Senior **Jessica Leifert (WINSTED)** led Eastern with 21 kills and 24 digs and handled 29 passes with just one error (she has made just two errors on 75 passes this year). Jassen followed with 17 kills and 20 digs while Tassone and Jassen were successful on 48 of 51 serves and combined for five aces. As a team, the Warriors committed only ten errors on 121 serves.

In her first starting role as the team's designated defensive player, first-year sophomore **Marianna Capomolla (STAMFORD)** attempted 24 passes and contributed 18 digs.

The match was the season-opener for the Camels, who lost to Eastern for the first straight time.

Eastern plays three matches Saturday at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy Invitational, facing Tufts at 9:30 a.m., Rhode Island College at 12:30 p.m. and Coast Guard at 2:30.

E-MAIL: molta@easternct.edu

WEB SITE: <http://www.easternct.edu/depts/athletics>

MAILING ADDRESS: Sports Center, Eastern Connecticut State University, 83 Windham St.
Willimantic, CT 06226

little east conference
Saturday, Sept. 4, 2004

EASTERN VOLLEYBALL RALLIES PAST ENC IN OPENER
Team comes from two games down for stunning season-opening victory

QUINCY, Mass. -- The Eastern Connecticut State University women's volleyball team wiped out a two-game deficit to stun Eastern Nazarene College 3-2 in its season-opener Saturday morning.

After losing the first two games against Eastern Nazarene, Eastern (1-1) won the next two games by a total of five points to tie the best-of-five match, then scored the first seven points of the deciding game behind the serving of sophomore **Jessica Keogh (MONROE)** to complete the comeback. Game scores were 21-30, 16-30, 30-27, 33-31, 15-6.

Following the two hour, 15 minute victory over Eastern Nazarene (0-1), the Warriors were swept by Colby-Sawyer College (1-0) 30-19, 30-14, 30-26.

Eastern trailed late in Game 4 against Eastern Nazarene but pulled even 28-28 on freshman **Emma Sousa's (COVENTRY)** serve. Keogh's kill later gave Eastern a 32-31 lead and Sousa put away a set from freshman **Lauren Martocci (SIMSBURY)** to give Eastern the match-tying victory.

Keogh served six straight points to propel the Warriors to a 7-0 lead in Game 5. With the score 7-3, Eastern scored four straight points and six of the next seven to move out to a 13-4 lead. Sousa had two service aces and a kill in that stretch and senior **Jessica Leifert (WINSTED)** and Keogh combined for nine digs in the deciding game.

Against Eastern Nazarene, Leifert led the team with 16 kills, 33 digs and 37 successful passes without an error. In her collegiate debut, Sousa had ten kills, seven digs and three service aces and attacked at .471. Junior **Chrissie Siranko (DANBURY)** added nine kills, Keogh seven and sophomore **Lesley Mumford (YARMOUTH, MA)** six. Freshmen setters Martocci, **Meghan Doyle (HEWLETT, NY)** and **Priscilla Dougherty (ISLAND PARK, NY)** combined for 43 set assists. Martocci had a team-high 21.

Leifert handled the first eight passes she attempted against Colby- Sawyer to give her 45 straight attempts without an error. She finished the day with one error on 48 tries.

All 16 roster players, including nine freshmen and 11 newcomers, saw action for the Warriors.

Eastern visits Connecticut College Wednesday at 7 p.m.