

# ABILENE CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY



## 2005 WILDCAT VOLLEYBALL

NCAA Division II

Lone Star Conference South Division

Lone Star Conference Champions

*2004*

Lone Star Conference South Division Champions

*2004*

NCAA Division II Southwest Regional Tournament

*2004*





# ACU VOLLEYBALL

Thursday, Nov. 3, 2005  
ACU at West Texas A&M

Saturday, Nov. 5, 2005  
ACU at Eastern New Mexico

First United Bank Center • Canyon • 7 p.m. Greyhound Arena • Portales, N.M. • 3 p.m.

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## AVCA TOP 25

Here is the NCAA Division II national volleyball poll, released Oct. 31 by the American Volleyball Coaches' Association. The number in parentheses is the number of first-place votes received:

	Rcrd	Last Week
1. Nebraska-Kearney (34) . . . . .	27-1	1
2. Hawaii Pacific (1) . . . . .	20-1	2
3. Tampa . . . . .	21-2	3
4. Concordia-St. Paul . . . . .	23-4	4
5. Minnesota-Duluth . . . . .	22-3	5
6. North Alabama . . . . .	29-1	6
7. Washburn . . . . .	31-1	7
8. Truman State . . . . .	25-4	8
9. Cal State-Los Angeles . . . . .	20-1	9
10. Cal Poly-Pomona . . . . .	21-2	11
11. Abilene Christian . . . . .	25-3	13
12. Florida Southern . . . . .	28-3	10
13. Central Missouri State . . . . .	22-8	14
14. Central Washington . . . . .	18-4	12
15. Cal State-San Bernardino . . . . .	16-6	15
16. Seattle Pacific . . . . .	19-5	18
17. UC-San Diego . . . . .	18-5	17
18. Grand Valley State . . . . .	23-5	16
19. Lock Haven . . . . .	27-4	19
20. Rockhurst . . . . .	24-4	20
21. BYU-Hawaii . . . . .	18-3	21
22. Cal State-Bakersfield . . . . .	17-6	22
23. Minnesota St.-Moorhead . . . . .	22-4	23
24. Nebraska-Omaha . . . . .	17-6	24
25. Florida Gulf Coast . . . . .	24-2	NR

**Others Receiving Votes:** Northern Michigan, 17; Southwest Minnesota State, 12; Ferris State, 7; Seattle, 5; Harding, 4; Emporia State, 2.

**Dropped Out of Poll:** Ferris State (25).

## ACU closes regular season with key LSC South road trip

CANYON – With only two regular season matches remaining on the schedule, all of ACU's pre-season goals are still in reach. However, the nationally ranked Wildcats will have to earn the right to check some of them off the hard way: on the road.

ACU – 25-3 on the season and ranked No. 11 in the nation, according to the latest American Volleyball Coaches' Association top 25 – will take its perfect 8-0 Lone Star Conference South Division record on the road this weekend to two of the toughest places to play in the league in Canyon and Portales, N.M.

The Wildcats lead West Texas A&M (25-7 and 7-1) by one game in the LSC South standings, thanks to a 3-0 sweep of the Lady Buffs on Oct. 8 in Moody Coliseum. ACU and West Texas A&M will play Thursday at 7 p.m.

in the First United Bank Center in Canyon in the match that could determine the LSC South Division champion and the team that will host the LSC Post-Season Tournament.

The Wildcats will then close out the regular season Saturday at Eastern New Mexico's Greyhound Arena against the Zias, who are out of the picture for a post-season berth. Still, there will be unfinished business in Portales, N.M., for ACU's quartet of seniors who have never won a match at ENMU.

The easiest scenario that would clinch the LSC South Division title and the right to host the post-season tournament for the Wildcats is, simply, win Thursday night in Canyon.

That would give ACU a two-game lead over the Lady Buffs with only one match left to play and ensuring that ACU would host the LSC tournament, Nov. 10-12, in Abilene.

There are other, more complicated, scenarios for the Wildcats (see box above), but the key thing is that they still control their own destiny in each of the scenarios. But perhaps the most important thing for head coach Brek Horn's squad is that they found their game last weekend in San Antonio with wins over Incarnate Word and St. Mary's.

"We just played so much better down there than we had the previous two weeks or so," said Horn, who is 167-67 overall in her seventh season as the Wildcats' head coach. "We were a lot smoother in both matches, and it made for better volleyball. I feel like we're going into this weekend with a lot more confidence than we had before the trip to San Antonio."

And that will be key against a Lady Buff squad that has won 15 of its last 16 matches with the only blemish on that mark the loss at ACU.

"They're playing well right now, but our confidence is really high, so that's a positive," Horn said. "We know going up there that we're not only going to have to beat West Texas A&M, but we're also going to have to beat their linesmen, the officials and their crowd. It's going to be a tough match because we're both playing to win our division and host the conference tournament, but I like the way my team is playing going up there."

There might be a natural tendency to have an emotional letdown on Saturday against an ENMU team going nowhere. Horn, though, said the Wildcats will have plenty of motivation for that match as well.

"If we have to go in there Saturday and win it to win the division, we'd better be motivated to play well," she said. "The other thing is that one of our goals this year was to win at Eastern New Mexico, which none of our seniors have ever done. We want to go to both places, sneak in, win the match and get out as quickly as possible and get back home to host the conference tournament."

### HOW THE SOUTH COULD BE WON

There are several different scenarios that would give the Wildcats the Lone Star Conference South Division crown and the right to host next week's LSC Post-Season Tournament in Abilene:

- A win Thursday night at West Texas A&M would clinch the Wildcats' second straight LSC South title and give them the right to host the LSC tournament, Nov. 10-12.
- If the Wildcats lose at West Texas A&M, because of tiebreaker rules they must take a game off the Lady Buffs and then win Saturday at Eastern New Mexico.
- If the Wildcats are swept Thursday night by West Texas A&M, because of tiebreaker rules they must sweep Eastern New Mexico on Saturday.

**SCOUTING THE WILDCATS**

The Wildcats achieved the program's highest national ranking Monday when they moved up two spots from No. 13 to No. 11 in the College Sports Television/American Volleyball Coaches' Association (CSTV/AVCA) top 25. ... The Wildcats have won a school-record 25 straight matches, including 16 by 3-0 sweeps. Five of ACU's last eight opponents, however, have taken off a game off the Wildcats, including three straight opponents – Texas A&M-Kingsville, Angelo State and Incarnate Word – before a 3-0 ACU sweep of St. Mary's last Saturday. ... ACU senior outside hitter **Michelle Bernhardt** – this week's LSC South Division Hitter of the Week – continues to climb the NCAA Division II list for career kills as she enters the final weekend of the regular season with 2,019 career kills making her only the fourth player in LSC history and 26th player in Division II history to top the 2,000-kill plateau. She needs 83 kills to pass **Janet Cobbs** of North Dakota State (2,091 career kills from 1985-88) into 20th place on the all-time list. ... Bernhardt is ninth on the NCAA Division II career list for total attacks with 5,174 entering the weekend. ... Bernhardt is second in the LSC in kills per game (4.48), and her total of 435 kills is third in the LSC. ... Senior setter **Lindsey Martin** leads the league and is fifth in NCAA Division II volleyball in assists per game at 13.34, and her 1,294 total assists are the third-best total in the LSC. ... She now has 5,496 career assists, which is the 25th-best total in NCAA Division II history. ... More impressively, she is sixth all-time in assists per game (12.63 over 435 career games). ... She and Bernhardt have made some history this year, becoming just the second set of teammates in Division II volleyball history to have played all four years together with one recording more than 2,000 kills (Bernhardt) and the other recording more than 5,000 assists (Martin). ... Senior middle blocker **Amanda Slate** could add to that history if she reaches 1,500 career kills (she has 1,461 entering the weekend). It could be the first time in Division II history that one team has had three players reach those marks while playing their entire careers together. ... Slate is fourth on ACU's all-time kills list and needs 101 more the rest of the season to pass **Linda Evans** (1,560 kills from 1989-92) for second on ACU's all-time list behind Bernhardt. Slate is just 69 kills away from moving past **Emily Hale** (1,529 kills from 1994-97) for third on ACU's all-time list. ... Slate leads the LSC and is 20th in the nation in hitting percentage (.372 percent), and her average of 4.16 kills per game (404 total kills) is fifth in the LSC. ... Slate is fourth in the LSC in blocks per game (1.15), and her 112 total blocks ranks third in the LSC. She now has 471 career blocks



entering the weekend, tying her with Lindsay DeHoff (1998-2001) for second on ACU's all-time list behind Evans (676 total blocks). Slate has 62 service aces on the season and leads the LSC in service aces per game at 0.63. ... Senior rightside hitter **Ashlee Motola** is enjoying her finest season with 282 kills and a career-best hitting percentage of .341 (second in the LSC). She is just 12 kills away from topping her previous single-season high of 293 (set in 2004), and she needs just 28 kills to give her 1,000 for her career, which could make ACU the first program in Division II history to have a 5,000-assist setter, a 2,000-kill hitter, a 1,500-kill hitter and a 1,000-kill hitter play their entire careers together. ... Sophomore outside hitter **Abbie Lowry** is fourth on the team in kills with 281, and she has 41 total blocks on the season. ... ACU leads the LSC in hitting percentage (.256), assists per game (14.88) and kills per game (16.43), and are second in opponent hitting percentage (.118, just behind West Texas A&M's LSC-leading percentage of .116).

**SCOUTING WEST TEXAS A&M**

The Lady Buffs have won 15 of their last 16 matches and their last nine straight entering Thursday's contest. ... The only blemish on the West Texas A&M ledger since Sept. 23 was a 3-0 loss at ACU on Oct. 8. ... The Lady Buffs have lost three straight matches against ACU after winning 22 straight matches over the Wildcats. That streak was snapped by ACU last year, and the Wildcats have won each of the last three matches between the teams by 3-0 scores. ... The Lady Buffs are led by Jessica Scherr, who has a team-leading 423 kills, while Rachel Altman has 369. ... Erin Houlihan leads the team with 1,125 assists (12.23 per game), while Brittani Bell – the school's all-time leader in digs – leads the team in digs with 609. ... The Lady Buffs can win the LSC South Division title and the right to host the conference tournament with wins over ACU and Angelo State this weekend, coupled with an ACU loss at Eastern New Mexico.



**SCOUTING EASTERN NEW MEXICO**

The Zias have struggled all season and will enter Saturday's regular-season finale with no shot at the post-season after reaching the NCAA Division II Southwest Region semifinals in 2004. ... The Zias are 7-18 overall and 2-6 in the LSC South going into Thursday's match against Angelo State. ... The Zias are led by Lindsay Schiely (344 kills) and Grace George (263 kills).



**2005 WILDCAT VOLLEYBALL ROSTER**

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Class	Hometown
1	Erin Curry	OH	5-9	fr	Arlington
2	Abbie Lowry	OH	5-10	soph	Flower Mound
3	Krystine Cethoute	MB	5-11	fr	Lewisville
4	Allie Watts	OH	5-8	soph	Austin
5	Erin Black	DS	5-5	fr	Amarillo
6	Michelle Bernhardt	OH	5-8	sr	Hereford
7	Ashlee Motola	RSH	6-0	sr	Austin
8	Liz Snoddy	Libero	5-7	soph	Arlington
9	Lauren Leone	MB	5-10	fr	Arlington
10	Amanda Slate	MB	6-0	sr	Hallsville
11	Nicole Killebrew	MB	5-9	jr	League City
12	Lindsey Martin	Setter	5-8	sr	Sugar Land
13	Jessica Reyna	OH/DS	5-8	fr	San Antonio
14	Malia Plumlee	Setter	5-4	jr	Edmond, Okla.
15	Alex Houston	Setter	5-9	fr	Amarillo

**Head coach:** Brek Horn

**Assistant coaches:** Sarah Carthel, Brian Bartczak

*56 National Championships • 24 NCAA Post-Graduate Scholars • 29 GTE / Verizon Academic All-Americans  
Track and Field program named Texas Monthly magazine's "Texas Sports Dynasty of the Century"*

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## **ACU ASSISTANT COACH NAMED TO DIVISION II ANNIVERSARY TEAM**

**Sarah Carthel one of two Lady Buffs voted to squad**

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. – Former West Texas A&M all-America and current ACU assistant volleyball coach Sarah (Butler) Carthel has been voted to the NCAA-II 25th Anniversary Volleyball Team.

Voting on the team at [www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org) was conducted in conjunction with the celebration of the 25th anniversary of several women's NCAA championships. The NCAA began sponsoring women's championships in 1981, and that opened the door to increased athletic and academic opportunities for female student-athletes. Today, the NCAA sponsors 44 women's championships in 20 sports, and provides more than 150,000 women an opportunity to compete for national titles each year.

As part of the anniversary celebration, the NCAA compiled 25th anniversary teams for several sports, including volleyball, and Carthel and another former Lady Buff all-America player, Ana Carolina Pereira, were voted to the team.

Carthel began her illustrious volleyball career at the University of Texas in 1996, but the Amarillo High School graduate transferred to West Texas A&M prior to the 1997 season after winning Big XII Freshman of the Year honors at Texas. From 1997-1999 the Lady Buffs went 98-12, including winning the 1997 Division II national championship. Carthel also led the Lady Buffs to a regional tournament berth in 1998, and an Elite Eight semifinal finish in 1999.

She was a three-time first-team American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) all-America selection and the NCAA Division II National Player of the Year in 1997 and 1999. Carthel also was a two-time Academic all-America honoree. She was a three-time first team all-region selection and Honda Award finalist for the top NCAA Division II Female Athlete in both 1997 and 1999.

Her 2,000 kills ranks her second in school history behind Pereira. Carthel is ranked second, third, and fifth in the school records for kills in a season.

After graduating from West Texas A&M in 2000, Carthel was a graduate assistant at Metropolitan State University in Denver, while playing for the United States National Team. She has played professionally for the St. Louis Quest in the United States Professional Volleyball League, and currently plays in a professional league in Puerto Rico in the offseason.

Carthel currently is in her fourth season as an assistant volleyball coach at ACU and is married to ACU assistant coach Colby Carthel.

Other members of the team – aside from Carthel and Pereira – are Central Missouri State middle blocker Becky Belland (1987-90), North Dakota State middle blocker Janet Cobbs (1986-88), Portland State setter / outside hitter Lynda Johnson (1982-85), and Barry outside hitter Cindy Yaun (1995-98). The coach is former UC-Riverside head coach Sue Gozansky, who led Riverside to two national titles in 1982 and 1986 and 17 overall national tournament appearances.

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# Abilene Christian University 2005 Volleyball Schedule

<u>DATE</u>	<u>OPPONENT</u>	<u>SITE</u>	<u>TIME / RECORD</u>
Fri., Aug 26-Sat., Aug. 27	<u>TAMPA CLASSIC</u> <i>Aug. 26 – lost to No. 9 Tampa, 3-0</i> <i>Aug. 27 – lost to No. 7 Central Missouri State, 3-0</i> <i>Aug. 27 – lost to Metropolitan State, 3-2</i>	Tampa, Fla.	0-1 0-2 0-3
Fri., Sept. 2-Sat., Sept. 3	<u>THE PREMIER CHALLENGE</u> <i>Sept. 2 – def. Concordia-St. Paul, 3-2</i> <i>Sept. 2 – def. Regis, 3-0</i> <i>Sept. 3 – def. Findlay, 3-1</i> <i>Sept. 3 – def. Central Missouri State, 3-2</i>	Denver, Colo.	1-3 2-3 3-3 4-3
<b>Saturday, Sept. 10</b>	<b>def. Wayland Baptist, 30-20, 30-11, 30-27</b>	<b>Abilene</b>	<b>5-3</b>
	<b>def. Southwest Baptist, 30-23, 30-23, 30-17</b>	<b>Abilene</b>	<b>6-3</b>
<b>Tuesday, Sept. 13</b>	<b>def. St. Edward's, 30-17, 30-12, 30-28</b>	<b>Abilene</b>	<b>7-3</b>
<b>Fri., Sept. 16-Sat., Sept. 17</b>	<u>LSC CROSSOVER TOURNAMENT</u> <i>Sept. 16 – def. Central Oklahoma, 3-1</i> <i>Sept. 17 – def. SE Oklahoma State, 3-0</i> <i>Sept. 17 – def. Midwestern State, 3-0</i>	<b>Abilene</b>	<b>8-3</b> <b>9-3</b> <b>10-3</b>
<b>Thursday, Sept. 22</b>	<b>* def. Texas A&amp;M-Kingsville, 30-22, 30-10, 30-17</b>	<b>Abilene</b>	<b>11-3, 1-0</b>
Saturday, Sept. 24	* def. Tarleton State, 35-33, 30-21, 30-20	Stephenville	12-3, 2-0
<b>Tuesday, Sept. 27</b>	<b>* def. Angelo State, 30-18, 30-23, 30-14</b>	<b>San Angelo</b>	<b>13-3, 3-0</b>
<b>Friday, Sept. 30</b>	<b>def. St. Mary's, 30-20, 30-18, 30-21</b>	<b>Abilene</b>	<b>14-3</b>
<b>Thursday, Oct. 6</b>	<b>* def. Eastern New Mexico, 30-26, 30-20, 30-17</b>	<b>Abilene</b>	<b>15-3, 4-0</b>
<b>Saturday, Oct. 8</b>	<b>* def. West Texas A&amp;M, 30-20, 30-22, 30-21</b>	<b>Abilene</b>	<b>16-3, 5-0</b>
Tuesday, Oct. 11	def. St. Edward's, 30-17, 30-22, 30-21	Austin	17-3
Fri., Oct. 14-Sat., Oct. 15	<u>LSC CROSSOVER TOURNAMENT</u> <i>Oct. 14 – def. Cameron, 28-30, 30-27, 30-23, 30-21</i> <i>Oct. 14 – def. SW Oklahoma State, 30-19, 30-17, 30-18</i> <i>Oct. 15 – def. Texas Woman's, 28-30, 31-29, 30-21, 30-28</i>	Denton	18-3 19-3 20-3
<b>Thursday, Oct. 20</b>	<b>* def. Tarleton State, 30-15, 30-25, 30-15</b>	<b>Abilene</b>	<b>21-3, 6-0</b>
Saturday, Oct. 22	* def. Texas A&M-Kingsville, 30-23, 29-31, 30-17, 30-24	Kingsville	22-3, 7-0
Tuesday, Oct. 25	* def. Angelo State, 30-17, 28-30, 33-31, 30-25	San Angelo	23-3, 8-0
Friday, Oct. 28	def. Incarnate Word, 30-16, 30-14, 16-30, 30-21	San Antonio	24-3
Saturday, Oct. 29	def. St. Mary's, 30-18, 30-13, 30-25	San Antonio	25-3
Thursday, Nov. 3	* West Texas A&M	Canyon	7 p.m.
Saturday, Nov. 5	* Eastern New Mexico	Portales, N.M.	2 p.m.
Thurs., Nov. 10-Sat., Nov. 12	^ LSC Post-Season Tournament	#1 South seed	
Thurs., Nov. 17-Sat., Nov. 19	^ NCAA Division II Southwest Regional	TBA	
Thurs., Dec. 1-Sat., Dec. 3	^ NCAA Division II National Tournament	TBA	

**Home matches in bold**

\* Lone Star Conference South Division match

^ Match will be carried live on KYYW 1470 AM