



Facilities

The women's volleyball team plays home competitions in Blake Arena, on the main level of the three-level domed Physical Education Complex. The floor is covered by Connor Neo-Shock maple wood that allows for a variety of activities such as athletic contests, classes, lectures, and shows. Roll-out bleachers accommodate more than 2,000 spectators. With the bleachers closed, it has room for two regulation-size basketball courts. Blake Arena has served as the host site of the 2006 and 2007 NCAA Division III Women's Basketball Championship (Final Four). Numerous regional and national tournaments have taken place in Blake as it serves as the home facility to volleyball, basketball, gymnastics, and wrestling.



SPRINGFIELD COLLEGE ATHLETICS

Women's Volleyball 2009

2009 Season Preview

After experiencing a great deal of success last season as it claimed the New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference (NEWMAC) Women's Volleyball Championship for the first time since 2004 and advanced to the second round of the NCAA Tournament, the upcoming season for the Springfield College women's volleyball program is very promising.

With a 32-5 record, head coach **Joel Dearing** guided his squad to one of the finest years in program history as he was the NEWMAC and AVCA New England Region Coach of the Year.

Emerging as one of the top players in the region during her first year after transferring from the University of Delaware, NEWMAC Player of the Year **Heather Lively** will lead the Pride once again this season. The junior outside hitter totaled 523 kills last season en route to being named an AVCA Division III Honorable Mention All-American.

All-Conference selection **Bethany Stosz** had another tremendous season as a stalwart at the net for the Pride. Stosz posted 211 kills on the year, but made her impact the most at the net, as she finished with 167 blocks, averaging just under 1.3 per game. Joining Stosz in the middle was classmate **Sarah Lang-Rodean**, who finished second on the team with 278 kills last season.

The NEWMAC Co-Rookie of the Year, **Kim Giaquinto**, had an especially productive freshman campaign as she recorded 119 kills and 58 blocks, proving to be a versatile component in Dearing's offense.

Once again, **Kelsea Hellyar** directed the Pride's offense as she averaged 9.7 assists per game and registered 255 digs, the most out of any returner for Springfield.



sophomore
Meaghan Hart

FAST FACTS:

- ▼ The Pride is one of the most competitive women's volleyball teams in the nation, posting 36 straight winning seasons.
- ▼ The winningest coach in the history of the program, head coach **Joel Dearing**, NEWMAC Coach of the Year in 2008, has led the Pride to 10 post season tournaments, including seven NCAA Tournaments, three berths in the national quarterfinals, and seven conference titles.
- ▼ The Pride rattled off a 32-5 record as it won the 2008 NEWMAC Championship.
- ▼ Affiliations: National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division III, Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC).
- ▼ Conference: New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference (NEWMAC).
- ▼ Home Court: Blake Arena



junior
Heather Lively
2008 NEWMAC Player of the Year

2009 Schedule

SEPTEMBER

| | | | |
|----|------|-------------------------------------|----------|
| 4 | Fri. | Lasell [^] | 5:00 pm |
| 4 | Fri. | Westfield State [^] | 7:00 pm |
| 5 | Sat. | Roger Williams [^] | 10:00 am |
| 5 | Sat. | Brandeis [^] | 3:00 pm |
| 11 | Fri. | at Johnson and Wales Invitational | 4:00 pm |
| 12 | Sat. | at Johnson and Wales Invitational | 9:00 am |
| 15 | Tue. | Wheaton [*] | 7:00 pm |
| 22 | Tue. | at MIT [*] | 9:00 pm |
| 25 | Fri. | at MIT Invitational | TBA |
| 26 | Sat. | at MIT Invitational | TBA |
| 29 | Tue. | at Clark [*] | 7:00 pm |

OCTOBER

| | | | |
|---|------|-------------------------------------|---------|
| 2 | Fri. | at SUNY Oneonta Invitational | 2:00 pm |
| 3 | Sat. | at SUNY Oneonta Invitational | 9:00 am |
| 6 | Tue. | Mount Holyoke [*] | 7:00 pm |
| 9 | Fri. | Westfield State [%] | 5:00 pm |
| 9 | Fri. | Plymouth State [%] | 7:00 pm |

OCTOBER (continued)

| | | | |
|----|------|------------------------------------|-----------|
| 10 | Sat. | WNEC [%] | 10:00 am |
| 10 | Sat. | Endicott [%] | 3:00 pm |
| 13 | Tue. | Babson [*] | 7:00 pm |
| 20 | Tue. | at Smith [*] | 7:00 pm |
| 23 | Fri. | at Volleyball Hall of Fame Classic | 5/7:00 pm |
| 24 | Sat. | at Volleyball Hall of Fame Classic | 10:00 am |
| 27 | Tue. | WPI [*] | 7:00 pm |
| 29 | Thu. | Wellesley [*] | 7:00 pm |
| 31 | Sat. | at Coast Guard [*] | 1:00 pm |

NOVEMBER

| | | | |
|---|------|--------------------------------|---------|
| 3 | Tue. | NEWMAC Tournament Quarterfinal | 7:00 pm |
| 6 | Fri. | NEWMAC Tournament Semifinal | TBA |
| 7 | Sat. | NEWMAC Tournament Final | TBA |

[^]Springfield College Invitational
[%]Tom Hay Invitational
^{*}NEWMAC Game
 Home matches in **bold**

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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Head Coach Joel Dearing

▼ Education

Springfield College '79
Bridgewater State College '82
USAV Level III accredited coach

▼ The "Dearing Era" at Springfield College

- Eight NCAA Tournament appearances ('93-'97, '03-'04, '08)
- Five ECAC Tournament appearances ('92, '98-'01)
- Three NE-10 Championships
- Two NCAA Division III Northeast Regional Championships ('95, '96)
- Three NEWMAC Championships ('03, '04, '08)
- One ECAC Championship ('92)

Joel Dearing will enter his 21st season as head women's volleyball coach and associate professor of physical education at his alma mater in the fall of 2009. Dearing is regarded nationally as one of the sport's best coaches. During his tenure at Springfield College, Dearing's record sits at 537-184, a winning percentage of .745, and he ranks in the top 10 in Division III history with a 670-298 (.692) overall mark in 28 seasons as a women's volleyball coach.

The Pride has enjoyed 37 straight winning seasons, including 17 straight with at least 20 wins under Coach Dearing. In three of the last eight seasons, his teams have captured at least 30 wins. In 2001, Springfield posted a 31-7 record, won its first New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference (NEWMAC) regular-season championship and made its fourth-straight appearance in the conference tournament championship match.

Championships and post-season competition are hallmarks of the "Dearing Era." In 2008, Dearing experienced a stellar year as the Pride captured the NEWMAC Championship and advanced to the NCAA Tournament. With a 32-5 record, Dearing was selected not only as the NEWMAC Coach of the Year, but the New England Region Coach of the Year by the AVCA.

The Program

Springfield College's competitive year-round program consists of both a traditional season, beginning in September and concluding in late November, and a five-week nontraditional season in March and April. Team members also participate in various campus and community projects. Springfield College hosts the annual Tom Hay Invitational in honor of former Springfield College teacher and coach Tom Hay, who retired in 1987 after coaching the men's and women's volleyball teams at Springfield for 22 years. Hay coached the women's team from 1978 to 1986, compiling an impressive 252-95-2 record.

▼ Honors and Accomplishments

- AVCA Division III New England Region Coach of the Year ('96, '03, '08)
- AVCA Division II Northeast Region Coach of the Year ('94)
- NEWMAC Coach of the Year ('96,'03, '08)
- NE-10 Coach of the Year ('90, '93, '94)
- Trailblazer Award (2006) awarded by USA Volleyball, AVCA, and Molten USA for his role in establishing the Men's Invitational Volleyball Championship
- Distinguished Springfield Professor of Humanities, 1997-98
- Member of the Volleyball Hall of Fame board of directors

During the 2003 and 2004 seasons, Springfield College won back-to-back NEWMAC titles. In both banner years, the Pride advanced to the New England Regional Championship. In 2003, the Pride rolled to a 34-3 record, which included a school-record 21-match win streak. Springfield has qualified for the NCAA Tournament seven times in the last 11 seasons.

Dearing also coached the Springfield College men's volleyball team from 1990 to 1996, compiling a 130-52 record.

Prior to joining the Springfield College staff, Dearing served as the director of athletics at Roger Williams (R.I.) University, where he started both the women's and men's volleyball programs. While there, Dearing compiled an overall record of 174-136. His women's teams posted a 133-114 mark in eight years, while the men's squads had a three-year record of 41-22.

Dearing, a member of the USAV Coaching Accreditation Program Cadre, is well-respected in the world of volleyball and has spent time conducting clinics in Aruba, Argentina, Bermuda, China, and Ireland. He has been the director of the Dearing Volleyball School for the past twenty-five years. He has authored the books, *Volleyball Fundamentals* and *The Untold Story of William G. Morgan, Inventor of Volleyball*.

History

Did you know that William G. Morgan, who graduated from Springfield College in 1894, invented the sport of volleyball? In fact, Springfield College was the site of the first volleyball game ever played—in 1896.

Dr. Morgan, the physical education director of the Holyoke YMCA, developed the sport as a less strenuous alternative to basketball. He originally named the sport "mintonette," but after Springfield College professor Dr. A.T. Halstead observed an exhibition match at the College, he suggested "volleyball" as a more appropriate name.

2008 Honors and Awards

AVCA Division III Honorable Mention All-American: Aylene Ilkson, senior; Heather Lively, sophomore ▼ **AVCA Division III All-New England Region:** Aylene Ilkson, senior; Heather Lively, sophomore ▼ **AVCA New England Region Coach of the Year:** Joel Dearing ▼ **NEVVA New England Division III Player of the Year:** Heather Lively, sophomore ▼ **NEVVA Senior Classic Selection:** Aylene Ilkson, senior; Heidi Yohe, senior ▼ **NEWMAC All-Conference First Team:** Heather Lively, sophomore; Heidi Yohe, senior ▼ **NEWMAC All-Conference Second Team:** Aylene Ilkson, senior; Bethany Stosz, sophomore ▼ **NEWMAC Player of the Year:** Heather Lively, sophomore ▼ **NEWMAC Co-Rookie of the Year:** Kim Giaquinto, freshman ▼ **NEWMAC Coach of the Year:** Joel Dearing ▼ **NEWMAC Player of the Week:** Sep. 29 - Heather Lively, sophomore; Oct. 6 - Heather Lively, sophomore; Nov. 10 - Sarah Lang-Rodean, sophomore ▼ **ECAC Co-Player of the Week:** Oct. 1 - Heather Lively, sophomore; Oct. 6 - Heather Lively, sophomore; ▼ **Maroon Club Athletes of the Week:** Sep. 15 - Heather Lively, sophomore; Sep. 22 - Aylene Ilkson, senior; Oct. 27-Heidi Yohe, senior

2009 Roster of Returning Players

| Name | Cl. | Pos. | Ht. | Hometown/Previous School/Club |
|-------------------|-----|------|------|---|
| Kelsea Hellyar | Jr. | S | 5-5 | Fairhaven, Mass./New Bedford |
| Chelsea Barnicle | Sr. | S | 5-4 | Newington, Conn./Newington |
| Meaghan Hart | So. | L | 5-6 | Stony Brook, N.Y./Ward Melville |
| Jenna Lebowitz | So. | DS | 5-7 | Coventry, Conn./Coventry |
| Kim Giaquinto | So. | OPP | 5-11 | Massapequa, N.Y./Massapequa |
| Heather Lively | Jr. | OH | 6-1 | Royalston, Mass./Univ. of Delaware |
| Sarah Lang-Rodean | Jr. | MB | 6-0 | Mansfield Center, Conn./E. O. Smith |
| Bethany Stosz | Jr. | MB | 6-0 | Amherst, Mass./Amherst Regional |
| Lauren Torvi | So. | MB | 6-3 | North Smithfield, R.I./North Smithfield |

Head Coach: Joel B. Dearing (21st season, Springfield '79)

Assistant Coaches: Tony Andres, Kathryn Hart



junior
Bethany Stosz

All-Time Results (1971-2008)

| Year | Record | Highlights | Year | Record | Highlights |
|------|---------|--|------|---------|---|
| 1971 | 5-5-0 | | 1994 | 31-4-0 | NCAA Division II Tournament, Northeast-10 champion |
| 1972 | 12-0-0 | EIAIW champion | 1995 | 30-7-0 | NCAA Division III Tournament quarterfinalist |
| 1973 | 11-1-0 | | 1996 | 28-10-0 | NCAA Division III Tournament quarterfinalist |
| 1974 | 9-0-0 | | 1997 | 23-13-0 | NCAA Division III Tournament |
| 1975 | 7-2-0 | | 1998 | 22-14-0 | ECAC Tournament |
| 1976 | 16-8-4 | MAIAW champion | 1999 | 28-9-0 | ECAC Tournament |
| 1977 | 17-12-0 | | 2000 | 26-13-0 | ECAC Tournament |
| 1978 | 28-5-0 | | 2001 | 31-7-0 | NEWMAC regular-season champion, ECAC Tournament |
| 1979 | 29-8-0 | | 2002 | 23-11-0 | |
| 1980 | 21-12-0 | | 2003 | 34-3 | NEWMAC champion, NCAA Division III Regional Final |
| 1981 | 36-13-2 | Northeast-8 champion | 2004 | 26-8 | NEWMAC champion, NCAA Division III Regional Final |
| 1982 | 37-7-0 | Northeast-8 champion | 2005 | 26-8 | 14th consecutive 20+ win season |
| 1983 | 36-10-0 | Northeast-8 champion | 2006 | 27-8 | NEWMAC Finalist |
| 1984 | 19-17-0 | Northeast-8 champion | 2007 | 23-10 | NEWMAC Semifinalist |
| 1985 | 23-13-0 | | 2008 | 32-5 | NEWMAC champion, NCAA Division III Regional Semifinal |
| 1986 | 23-10-0 | | | | |
| 1987 | 18-9-0 | Northeast-10 champion | | | |
| 1988 | 21-15-0 | | | | |
| 1989 | 22-16-0 | Coach Dearing's first season | | | |
| 1990 | 25-12-0 | Northeast-10 champion | | | |
| 1991 | 19-16-0 | | | | |
| 1992 | 29-7-0 | ECAC Division II Tournament champion | | | |
| 1993 | 32-3-0 | NCAA Division II Tournament, Northeast-10 champion | | | |

Totals 905-331-6 (.731 winning percentage)