

MATCHUP 1

MATCH 1: KANSAS (0-0, 0-0) VS. VANDERBILT (0-0, 0-0)

Saturday, Aug. 23, 2025 • 3 p.m. CT • Lincoln, Neb. (Pinnacle Bank Arena) • FS1



KANSAS JAYHAWKS

Head Coach: Matt Ulmer
Record at KU: 0-0 / 1st season
Career Record: 166-77 / 9th season



VANDERBILT COMMODORES

Head Coach: Anders Nelson
Record at Vanderbilt: 0-0 / 1st season
Career Record: 155-89-40 / 14th season

SERIES HISTORY

Overall: Kansas leads, 0-0 • Home: 0-0 • Away: 0-0 • Neutral: 0-0 • Last Meeting: —

MATCHUP 2

MATCH 2: KANSAS (0-0, 0-0) VS. PENN STATE (0-0, 0-0)

Monday, Aug. 25, 2025 • 5:30 p.m. CT • Sioux Falls, S.D. (Sanford Pentagon) • Big Ten Network



KANSAS JAYHAWKS

Head Coach: Matt Ulmer
Record at KU: 0-0 / 1st season
Career Record: 166-77 / 9th season



PENN STATE NITTANY LIONS

Head Coach: Katie Schumacher-Cawley
Record at Vanderbilt: 148-79-40 / 13th season
Career Record: 155-89-40 / 14th season

SERIES HISTORY

Overall: Penn State leads, 0-2 • Home: 0-0 • Away: 0-0 • Neutral: 0-2 • Last Meeting: 12/1/23 (L 2-3)

TEAM COMPARISON



Record: Inaugural Season for Program
Ranking: -
Kills -
Assists -
Aces -
Digs -
Blocks -



Record: 2024 Record: 25-5
Ranking: #14 AVCA
Kills -
Assists -
Aces -
Digs -
Blocks -



Record: 2024 Record: 25-5
Ranking: #2 AVCA
Kills -
Assists -
Aces -
Digs -
Blocks -

KANSAS VOLLEYBALL OPENS SEASON AT AVCA FIRST SERVE

JAYHAWKS IN SEASON OPENERS

• Over the past five seasons Kansas has posted a 4-1 record in season openers. In 2020 the Jayhawks started the COVID delayed schedule in dramatic fashion by knocking off third ranked Baylor in five sets, one of the biggest wins in program history to begin a season. The following year Kansas opened against Loyola Marymount and came up short in four sets. The Jayhawks bounced back in 2022 with a sweep of Utah Valley to begin what became another NCAA Tournament campaign. In 2023 Kansas kept the momentum going with a sweep of Pepperdine on the road, setting the tone for a season that saw the program reach the Sweet Sixteen. Last fall Kansas opened strong once again, sweeping South Carolina to extend the streak of successful starts under longtime coach Ray Bechard

New Era of Kansas Volleyball

• Kansas Volleyball enters a new chapter in 2025 under new head coach Matt Ulmer, who takes over following the retirement of legendary head coach Ray Bechard. Bechard stepped down after 27 seasons, 496 wins, 13 NCAA Tournament appearances, and a Final Four run in 2015, leaving as the winningest coach in program history. Ulmer, who previously built Oregon into a national contender with multiple Sweet 16 and Elite Eight appearances, was introduced in January and brings fresh energy and vision to Lawrence. With Bechard offering support during the transition, Ulmer and his new staff look to build on Kansas' established success and keep the Jayhawks among the Big 12's top programs.

Preseason Awards

• The Jayhawks landed three players on the Preseason All-Big 12 Team middle blocker Reese Ptacek, a unanimous returning First Team selection; setter Cristin Cline, who transferred from Oregon and reunites with head coach Matt Ulmer; and freshman pin hitter Jovana Zelenović. Zelenović, at 6-7, is among three international additions to the roster—joining Slovenia's Selena Leban, a standout in European competition, and Croatia's Aurora Papac, who was named best middle blocker in multiple age-group European tournaments. Zelenović stands out further with her résumé in Serbia: she led OK Železničar to the 2024 Serbian National Championship and is competing this summer in the 2025 Volleyball Nations League. Together, this blend of returning talent and internationally decorated newcomers gives Kansas a compelling and well-rounded frontline as the Jayhawks gear up for another run in the Big 12.

In the polls

• Kansas opens the 2025 season ranked No. 14 in the AVCA Preseason Poll, marking the program's highest preseason ranking since 2017. The Jayhawks were also picked second in the Big 12 Preseason Coaches' Poll, earning 170 points and four first-place votes, trailing only BYU in the conference race. The ranking reflects both the program's recent success and the strong roster head coach Matt Ulmer has assembled in his first season at the helm.

2025 SCHEDULE & RESULTS

AUGUST (0-0)

Sat. 23	Vanderbilt	Lincoln, Neb.	3 p.m.
Mon. 25	Penn State	Sioux Falls, S.D.	5:30 p.m.
Fri. 29	at Wisconsin	Madison, Wis.	6 p.m.
Sun. 31	Creighton	Madison, Wis.	3:30 p.m.

SEPTEMBER (0-0)

Wed. 3	Bowling Green	West Lafayette, Ind.	2 p.m.
Thu. 4	Georgia Tech	West Lafayette, Ind.	2 p.m.
Fri. 5	at Purdue	West Lafayette, Ind.	6 p.m.
Thu. 11	Florida Gulf Coast	Vermillion, S.D.	4 p.m.
Fri. 12	Green Bay	Vermillion, S.D.	4 p.m.
Sat. 13	at South Dakota	Vermillion, S.D.	5 p.m.
Tue. 16	at Wichita State	Wichita, Kan.	6 p.m.
Sat. 20	at Omaha	Omaha, Neb.	3 p.m.
Sun. 21	South Florida	Omaha, Neb.	10 a.m.
Sun. 21	Creighton	Omaha, Neb.	5 p.m.
Fri. 26	ARIZONA STATE*	Lawrence, Kan.	7 p.m.
Sun. 28	ARIZONA*	Lawrence, Kan.	12 p.m.

OCTOBER (0-0)

Wed. 1	at TCU*	Fort Worth, Texas	6:30 p.m.
Fri. 3	at Baylor*	Waco, Texas	7 p.m.
Wed. 8	TEXAS TECH*	Lawrence, Kan.	6 p.m.
Fri. 10	IOWA STATE*	Lawrence, Kan.	6 p.m.
Thu. 16	at Houston*	Houston, Texas	7 p.m.
Wed. 22	TCU*	Lawrence, Kan.	6 p.m.
Fri. 24	KANSAS STATE*	Lawrence, Kan.	8 p.m.
Thu. 30	at Cincinnati*	Cincinnati, Ohio	5:30 p.m.

NOVEMBER (0-0)

Sat. 1	at West Virginia*	Morgantown, W.Va.	12 p.m.
Thu. 6	COLORADO*	Lawrence, Kan.	6 p.m.
Sat. 8	CINCINNATI*	Lawrence, Kan.	1 p.m.
Sat. 15	at Kansas State*	Manhattan, Kan.	1 p.m.
Wed. 19	at Utah*	Salt Lake City, Utah	8 p.m.
Fri. 21	at BYU*	Provo, Utah	7 p.m.
Wed. 26	at Iowa State*	Ames, Iowa	6:30 p.m.
Sat. 29	UCF*	Lawrence, Kan.	1 p.m.

*Big 12 Conference Game; All times Central; Home games in **CAPS**.

PLAYERS TO WATCH

#9 JOVANA ZELENOVIC

Fr. • Pin • Novi Sad, Serbia

Named to the 2025 Preseason All-Big 12 Team
Led OK Železničar to 2024 Serbian National Championship
Competed in the 2025 Volleyball Nations League



#10 REESE PTACEK

So. • Middle Blocker • Prescott, Wis.

2025 Unanimous All-Big 12 Preseason Team Selection
2024 Big 12 Freshman of the Year
3rd in Big 12 in blocks per set, team leader (1.26)



#11 CRISTIN CLINE

So. • Setter • Stanfield, N.C.

Named to the 2025 Preseason All-Big 12 Team
5th in Big 10, 4th nationally (Fr.) 10.26 assists per set
Totaled 1,139 assists and 218 digs last season



#25 LOGAN BELL

Fr. • Pin • Beech Grove, Ind.

Gatorade Player of the Year – Indiana
2024 MaxPreps National Player of the Year Finalist
Two-time First Team All-State selection



QUICK FACTS

GENERAL INFORMATION

Full Name	University of Kansas
Location	Lawrence, Kan.
Founded	1866
Enrollment	30,770
Nickname	Jayhawks
School Colors	Crimson (Pantone 186) & Blue (Pantone 293)
Conference	Big 12
Chancellor	Douglas A. Girod
Athletics Director	Travis Goff
Athletics Website	www.KUathletics.com
Ticket Office Phone	1.800.34.HAWKS (42957)

VOLLEYBALL FACILITY

Home Facility (Capacity)	Horejsi Family Volleyball Arena (2,500)
KU Record at Horejsi Arena	54-32-12 (.612)
Opened	2014

COACHING STAFF

Head Coach	Matt Ulmer (Carthage College, 2006)
Year at Kansas	1st in 2025
Record at Kansas	0-0
Overall Coaching Record	94-42-23 (8th season)
Associate Head Coach	Erika Dillard (Long Beach State, 2001)
Year at Kansas	1st in 2025
Associate Head Coach	Matt Werle (Juniaita College, 2008)
Year at Kansas	1st in 2025
Assistant Coach	Arica Nassar (Oregon State, 2010)
Year at Kansas	1st in 2025
Director of Operations	Maggie Bowen (Kansas, 2012)
Year at Kansas	9th in 2025
Technical Coordinator	Tori Hohlios (Kansas, 2014)
Year at Kansas	4th in 2025

TEAM HISTORY

1st Year of Volleyball:	1975
All-Time Record:	911-753-12 (.547)
All-Time Big 12 Record (1996-present):	237-273 (.459)
All-Time Big Eight Record (1983-95):	39-109 (.264)
2023 Overall Record:	24-6
2023 Big 12 Record (Finish):	14-4 (2nd)
Conference Titles:	1 (2016)

2024 REVIEW

Overall Record	25-5
Big 12 Record	15-3
Big 12 Finish	2nd
Home	13-3
Away	9-2
Neutral	3-0

2025 TEAM INFORMATION

Returning from 2023	12
Newcomers for 2024	3
Transfers	3

COMMUNICATIONS

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NUMERICAL ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Cl.	Hometown / Previous School
1	Grace Nelson	Pin	6-1	So.	River Forest, Ill. / River Forest HS
2	Kenzie Dean	Pin	6-3	So.	Johnston, Iowa / Dowling Catholic
3	Raegan Burns	L/DS	5-5	Jr.	Lafayette, Indiana / McCutcheon HS
4	Rhian Swanson	Pin	6-2	Sr.	McPherson, Kansas / McPherson HS
5	Selena Leban	Pin	6-0	Fr.	Nova Gorica, Slovenia / Gimnazija Šiška
6	Audra Wilmes	Pin	6-1	Sr.	West Linn, Ore. / West Linn, Ore.
7	Katie Dalton	S/Pin	6-1	Sr.	Parker, Colo. / Chapparral HS
8	Ellie Moore	S	5-9	So.	Darien, Conn. / Darien HS
9	Jovana Zelenovic	Pin	6-7	Fr.	Novi Sad, Serbia / OK Železnikar
10	Reese Ptacek	MB	6-3	So.	Prescott, Wisc. / Prescott HS
11	Cristin Cline	S	5-11	So.	Stanfield, N.C. / Oregon
12	Heidi Devers	L/DS	5-4	Fr.	Olathe, Kan. / Saint James Academy
15	Ellie Schneider	MB	6-5	Jr.	Metarie, La. / Metairie Country Day School
17	Aurora Papac	MB	6-4	Fr.	Požega, Croatia / Sport Gymnasium Zagreb
19	Molly McCarthy	L/DS	5-11	R-Jr.	Rancho Mirage, Calif. / Palm Desert HS
20	Brynn Kirsch	L/DS	5-8	Sr.	Sioux Falls, S.D. / Lincoln HS
22	Ryan White	L/DS	5-9	Sr.	Richland, Wash. / Oregon State
24	Aisha Aiono	MB	6-3	Jr.	Liberty, Mo. / Liberty HS
25	Logan Bell	Pin	5-11	Fr.	Beech Grove, Ind. / Roncalli HS

ALPHABETICAL ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Cl.	Hometown / Previous School
24	Aisha Aiono	MB	6-3	Jr.	Liberty, Mo. / Liberty HS
25	Logan Bell	Pin	5-11	Fr.	Beech Grove, Ind. / Roncalli HS
3	Raegan Burns	L/DS	5-5	Jr.	Lafayette, Indiana / McCutcheon HS
11	Cristin Cline	S	5-11	So.	Stanfield, N.C. / Oregon
7	Katie Dalton	S/OPP	6-1	Jr.	Parker, Colo. / Chapparral HS
12	Heidi Devers	L/DS	5-4	Fr.	Olathe, Kan. / Saint James Academy
2	Kenzie Dean	OH	6-3	Fr.	Johnston, Iowa / Dowling Catholic
20	Brynn Kirsch	L/DS	5-8	Sr.	Sioux Falls, S.D. / Lincoln HS
5	Selena Leban	Pin	6-0	Fr.	Nova Gorica, Slovenia / Gimnazija Šiška
19	Molly McCarthy	L/DS	5-11	R-Jr.	Rancho Mirage, Calif. / Palm Desert HS
8	Ellie Moore	S	5-9	So.	Darien, Conn. / Darien HS
1	Grace Nelson	Pin	6-1	So.	River Forest, Ill. / River Forest HS
8	Ellie Moore	S	5-9	Fr.	Darien, Conn. / Darien HS
17	Aurora Papac	MB	6-4	Fr.	Požega, Croatia / Sport Gymnasium Zagreb
10	Reese Ptacek	MB	6-3	So.	Prescott, Wisc. / Prescott HS
15	Ellie Schneider	MB	6-5	Jr.	Metarie, La. / Metairie Country Day School
4	Rhian Swanson	Pin	6-2	Sr.	McPherson, Kansas / McPherson HS
6	Audra Wilmes	Pin	6-1	Sr.	West Linn, Ore. / West Linn, Ore.
22	Ryan White	L/DS	5-9	Sr.	Richland, Wash. / Oregon State
9	Jovana Zelenovic	Pin	6-7	Fr.	Novi Sad, Serbia / OK Železnikar

Head Coach:	Matt Ulmer (Carthage College, 2006) - 1st Season
Associate Head Coach:	Erika Dillard (Long Beach State, 2001) - 1st season
Associate Head Coach:	Matt Werle (Juniaita College, 2008) - 1st season
Assistant Coach:	Arica Nassar (Oregon State, 2010) - 1st season
Director of Operations:	Maggie Bowen (Kansas, 2012) - 9th season
Technical Coordinator	Tori Hohlios (Kansas, 2014) - 4th season

JOVANA ZELENOVIC	Yoh-vah-na , ze-len-ovic	LEBAN , Selena	LEH-bahn
PAPAC , Aurora	PAH-pahts		
AISHA AIONO	Aye-sha Eye-Oh-No		
Brynn KIRSCHker-sh		
Reese PTACEK	Puh-Tack		



RETURNERS

No./Name	Cl.
1. Grace Nelson	So.
2. Kenzie Dean	So.
3. Raegan Burns	Jr.
4. Rhian Swanson	Sr.
7. Katie Dalton	Sr.
8. Ellie Moore	So.
10. Reese Ptacek	So.
12. Heidi Devers	Fr.
15. Ellie Scheider	Jr.
19. Molly McCarthy	R-Jr.
20. Brynn Kirsch	Sr.
24. Aisha Aiono	Jr.

NEWCOMERS

No./Name	Cl.
5. Selena Leban	Fr.
9. Jovana Zelenovic	Fr.
25. Logan Bell	Fr.

TRANSFERS

No./Name	Cl.
11. Cristin Cline	So.
22. Ryan White	Sr.
6. Audra Wilmes	Sr.



AVCA/NCAA POLL

Week 0			
RANK	SCHOOL (1ST-PLACE VOTES)	W-L	PTS
1	Nebraska (40)	0-0	1,490
2	Penn State (21)	0-0	1,459
3	Pittsburgh	0-0	1,338
4	Louisville	0-0	1,240
5	Texas	0-0	1,223
6	Stanford	0-0	1,200
7	Kentucky	0-0	1,181
8	Wisconsin	0-0	1,167
9	Texas A&M	0-0	844
10	SMU	0-0	830
11	Minnesota	0-0	811
12	Creighton	0-0	778
13	Arizona State	0-0	707
14	Kansas	0-0	626
15	Purdue	0-0	591
16	Florida	0-0	570
17	Missouri	0-0	541
18	UCLA	0-0	456
19	BYU	0-0	362
20	Baylor	0-0	338
21	Southern California	0-0	319
22	Georgia Tech	0-0	298
23	Utah	0-0	282
24	Dayton	0-0	225
25	TCU	0-0	182

Others receiving votes and listed on two or more ballots: Tennessee 126; Oregon 124; North Carolina 113; Marquette 94; Western Kentucky 40; Oklahoma 37; Miami (FL) 34; Washington 34; Florida State 33; Houston 26; Hawai'i 20; San Diego 18; Arkansas 10; Rice 10; Arizona 4; Northern Iowa 4

BIG 12 STANDINGS

Week 0										
— BIG 12 —										
TEAM	W-L	%	H	A	OVERALL	%	H	A	N	
Arizona	0-0	.000	0-0	.000		0-0	0-0	0-0		
Arizona State	0-0	.000	0-0	.000		0-0	0-0	0-0		
Baylor	0-0	.000	0-0	.000		0-0	0-0	0-0		
BYU	0-0	.000	0-0	.000		0-0	0-0	0-0		
Cincinnati	0-0	.000	0-0	.000		0-0	0-0	0-0		
Colorado	0-0	.000	0-0	.000		0-0	0-0	0-0		
Houston	0-0	.000	0-0	.000		0-0	0-0	0-0		
Iowa State	0-0	.000	0-0	.000		0-0	0-0	0-0		
Kansas	0-0	.000	0-0	.000		0-0	0-0	0-0		
Kansas State	0-0	.000	0-0	.000		0-0	0-0	0-0		
TCU	0-0	.000	0-0	.000		0-0	0-0	0-0		
Texas Tech	0-0	.000	0-0	.000		0-0	0-0	0-0		
UCF	0-0	.000	0-0	.000		0-0	0-0	0-0		
Utah	0-0	.000	0-0	.000		0-0	0-0	0-0		
West Virginia	0-0	.000	0-0	.000		0-0	0-0	0-0		





HEAD COACH
MATT ULMER

THE ULMER FILE

Position:	Head Coach
Alma Mater:	Carthage College, '06, '08
Wife:	Kara
Children:	Camden, Harper, Harlow and Easton

COACHING HISTORY

Years	Role
2025-Pres.	Kansas (Head Coach)
2017-2024	Oregon (Head Coach)
2016	Oregon (Associate Head Coach)
2014-15	Oregon (Assistant Coach)
2009-13	Long Beach (Women's Assistant Coach)
2013	Long Beach (Beach Volleyball Head Coach)
2007-08	Long Beach Volunteer Assistant
2002-06	Carthage Assistant Coach

COACHING RECORD

Year	School	Overall	Conference
2024	Oregon	24-8	14-6 (Big 10)
2023	Oregon	29-6	16-4 (Pac-12)
2022	Oregon	26-6	17-3 (Pac-12)
2021	Oregon	22-9	13-7 (Pac-12)
2020*	Oregon	15-5	14-4 (Pac-12)
2019	Oregon	9-20	5-15 (Pac-12)
2018	Oregon	23-11	13-7 (Pac-12)
2017	Oregon	23-11	13-7 (Pac-12)

Matt Ulmer, a proven winner at the highest level with a track record of successful player development, postseason triumphs and elite recruiting, has been named the seventh head coach in Kansas volleyball history. Director of Athletics Travis Goff announced Friday. Ulmer, who has served as the head coach at Oregon since 2017, signed a six-year contract that will go through the 2030 season.

"In bringing Coach Ulmer to KU, we have paired one of the premier coaches in the game with one of the premier programs in the country," Goff said. "Thanks to a strong foundation, history of success and our demonstrated commitment to volleyball, there was exceptional interest in this position from some of the most accomplished coaches in the sport. Matt stood alone due to his elite track record, impeccable reputation, devotion to developing student-athletes and his vision for an even brighter future for Kansas volleyball. We are confident he will carry on the tradition that Ray Bechard established in his 27 seasons as our passionate leader.

"We are incredibly excited to welcome Matt, his wife, Kara, and their children, Camden, Harper, Harlow and Easton, to the Jayhawk family."

Ulmer, who became the youngest coach in volleyball history to win a national championship when he guided Long Beach State to a beach volleyball title in 2013, comes to Lawrence following a fruitful eight-season tenure with the Oregon Ducks. During his time at Oregon, Ulmer compiled a .683 winning percentage (166-77), while leading his team to seven NCAA Tournament appearances. He reached three Elite Eights, five Sweet 16s and won at least one game in six of the program's seven postseason appearances. He became more successful as his tenure progressed with the Ducks winning at least 22 matches in each of their last four seasons with a pair of Elite Eight appearances, one Sweet 16 and serving as NCAA Regional hosts three times in that span.

Under his leadership, Oregon finished inside the Top 10 of the AVCA Division I Poll in each of the last three seasons and has advanced to the second weekend of the NCAA Tournament in all three seasons.

"I'd like to thank Chancellor Girod, Travis Goff and Nicole Corcoran for giving my family and I this opportunity to lead Kansas volleyball," Ulmer said. "We are humbled and blessed to have the chance to continue what Coach Bechard and the alumni have built. The character and grit that Kansas volleyball shows year in-and-year-out is something that every program should strive for. My staff and I are ready to give our all for the future success of Jayhawk volleyball. I'm beyond excited to get to Lawrence and meet the team, start practice and get better every day. I can't wait to hear the 'Rock Chalk Jayhawk' chants in Horejsi! The past 11 seasons in Eugene have given us memories and relationships that will last forever. Thank you Rob Mullens, Val Johnson, Lisa Peterson and all of the past and current Ducks for being our extended family."

Ulmer arrived at Oregon in 2014 as an assistant coach, before being promoted to associate head coach in 2016. The following season, Ulmer was named the seventh head coach in program history. Prior to his time in Eugene, Ulmer worked at Long Beach State from 2009-13, serving as the head women's beach volleyball coach in 2013 and an assistant coach for the indoor team for all five seasons. He also served as a volunteer assistant at Long Beach State from 2007-08.

During his time at Oregon, Ulmer elevated the program and won at an unprecedented rate. He posted five seasons of 22 wins or more, after the program produced four such seasons in the 30 years prior to his tenure. Over his final five seasons with the Ducks, Oregon went 116-34 and qualified for the NCAA Tournament each season.

This past season, Ulmer and the Ducks went 24-8 on the season and 14-6 in Big 10 play, advancing to the Sweet 16. The program hosted an NCAA regional, beating High Point and No. 20 TCU, before falling at No. 1 Pittsburgh in five sets and finishing No. 10 in the final AVCA poll. The 2024 campaign followed one of the most successful seasons in program history in 2023. Ulmer's squad went 29-6 and made a second-straight appearance in the Elite Eight. Ulmer and Oregon spent the entire season inside the AVCA Top 10 and finished the year No. 7 in the poll.

In 2022, Oregon went 26-6 and 17-3 in the Pac-12, setting a new program record for conference wins in a season. The Ducks hosted the first two rounds of the tournament, before topping No. 7 Nebraska in five sets in the Sweet 16. Oregon's run came to an end in a five-set thriller in the Elite Eight against No. 4 Louisville. Ulmer's team finished No. 7 in the final AVCA poll of the season.

The 2021 season marked Ulmer's fourth trip to the NCAA Tournament and featured five wins over ranked opponents, including the program's first-ever season sweep of Stanford and a straight-set win over Penn State. Ulmer led the team to a 15-5 mark and a spot in the Sweet 16 of the tournament in the 2021 spring season, which was delayed because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Ulmer also led his team to the NCAA Tournament in each of his first two seasons, advancing to the second round in 2017 and taking the program to the Elite Eight in his second season in 2018.

A hallmark of Ulmer's success in Eugene was his player development, evidenced by the accolades and professional careers of his student-athletes. Ulmer helped produce a pair of first-team AVCA All-Americans in Hannah Pukis (2023) and Brooke Nuneviller (2022). In 2023, Oregon had three student-athletes selected to the top three AVCA All-American teams, marking the fourth time in program history and third time under Ulmer the Ducks achieved that. In addition, Oregon has 16 former players – all of whom played for Ulmer – currently playing professionally.

During his seven seasons at Long Beach State, Ulmer's tenure was highlighted by leading the 49ers to a beach volleyball national championship in 2013, becoming the youngest head coach ever to win a Division I men's or women's volleyball championship. He flourished coaching beach volleyball, coaching five athletes who have won FIVB medals and four who have made main draws in AVP events. He has also coached four beach All-Americans.

Ulmer's success hasn't been limited to winning on the court. Under his guidance, student-athletes earned 12 Pac-12 All-Academic honors at Oregon and 28 Big West All-Academic awards during his Long Beach State tenure.

Ulmer, who has worked with USA Volleyball Select A1, has also been honored with the Long Beach Century Club Ernie Pollman Award, recognizing an individual who impacted the community's youth through sports. He was also named to the AVCA's "Thirty Under 30" in 2012.

Prior to his coaching career, Ulmer played collegiately at Carthage College, where he served as a setter. He helped lead the team to two National Championship appearances, and was named a first-team D-III All-American as a senior. While at Carthage, Ulmer was also an assistant coach for the women's team from 2002-06.

Ulmer graduated from Carthage in 2006, before earning his Master's degree from Carthage in 2008. He and his wife, Kara, have four children, Camden (11), Harper (9), Harlow (3) and Easton (1).





ROCK CHALK JAYHAWK
ROSTER
// 2025 KANSAS VOLLEYBALL



1 GRACE NELSON
SOPHOMORE
PIN
RIVER FOREST, ILL.



2 KENZIE DEAN
SOPHOMORE
PIN
JOHNSTON, IOWA



3 RAEGAN BURNS
JUNIOR
LIBERO / DS
LAFFAYETTE, IND.



4 RHIAN SWANSON
SENIOR
PIN
MCPHERSON, KAN.



5 SELENA LEBAN
FRESHMAN
PIN
NOVA GORCIA, SLOVENIA



6 AUDRA WILMES
SENIOR
PIN
WEST LINN, ORE.



7 KATIE DALTON
SENIOR
SETTER/PIN
PARKER, COLO.



8 ELLIE MOORE
SOPHOMORE
SETTER
DARIEN, CONN.



9 JOVANA ZELENOVIC
FRESHMAN
PIN
NOVI SAD, SERBIA



10 REESE PTACEK
SOPHOMORE
MIDDLE BLOCKER
PRESCOTT, WIS.



11 CRISTIN CLINE
SOPHOMORE
SETTER
STANFIELD, N.C.



12 HEIDI DEVERS
SOPHOMORE
LIBERO/DEF. SPECIALIST
OLATHE, KAN.



15 ELLIE SCHNEIDER
JUNIOR
MIDDLE BLOCKER
METAIRIE, LA.



17 AURORA PAPAC
FRESHMAN
MIDDLE BLOCKER
POŽEGA, CROATIA



19 MOLLY MCCARTHY
REDSHIRT/JUNIOR
LIBERO/DEF. SPECIALIST
RANCHO MIRAGE, CALIF.



20 BRYNN KIRSCH
SENIOR
LIBERO/DEF. SPECIALIST
SIOUX FALLS, S.D.



22 RYAN WHITE
SENIOR
LIBERO/DEF. SPECIALIST
RICHLAND, WASH.



24 AISHA AIONO
SOPHOMORE
MIDDLE BLOCKER
LIBERTY, MO.



25 LOGAN BELL
FRESHMAN
PIN
BEECH GROVE, IND.



HC MATT ULMER
FIRST SEASON



ac ERIKA DILLARD
FIRST SEASON



ac MATT WERLE
FIRST SEASON



Ac ARICA NASSAR
FIRST SEASON



do MAGGIE BOWEN
9TH SEASON



TC TORI HOHLJOS
4TH SEASON

