

**Quick Team Information**

**Current World Ranking:** 4th  
**Head Coach:** "Jenny" Lang Ping  
**Record:** 68-38 (4th year)  
**2007 Record:** 26-11  
**Assistant Coaches:** Sue Woodstra, Li Yong, Tom Hogan  
**Technical Coordinator:** Diane French

# U.S. Women's National Volleyball Team Weekly Update

**Jan. 7-13, 2008**

**Training Team Assembles, Tryouts Start Today**

**Additional Team USA Facts**

**USA Volleyball CEO:** Doug Beal  
**Training Site:** Colorado Springs, CO  
**Media Contact:** Bill Kauffman  
**Phone:** 719-228-6800  
**E-Mail:** bill.kauffman@usav.org  
**Web Site:** www.usavolleyball.org  
**Confederation:** NORCECA

## 2007 U.S. Women's National Volleyball Team Schedule

### PanAmerican Cup (Colima, Mexico)

6/21: def. Argentina 3-1  
 6/22: def. Costa Rica 3-0  
 6/23: def. Dominican Republic 3-2  
 6/24: def. Trinidad & Tobago 3-0  
 6/25: def. Mexico 3-0  
 6/28: lost to Brazil 0-3  
 6/29: lost to Dominican Republic 1-3

### PanAmerican Games (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil)

7/14: def. Costa Rica 3-0  
 7/15: def. Puerto Rico 3-1  
 7/16: lost to Cuba 0-3  
 7/18: lost to Brazil 0-3 (semifinal)  
 7/19: def. Peru 3-0 (bronze medal)

### FIVB World Grand Prix

8/3: def. Poland 3-2  
 8/4: def. Russia 3-0  
 8/5: lost to China 0-3  
 8/10: def. Cuba 3-1  
 8/11: lost to Russia 2-3  
 8/12: def. Kazakhstan 3-1  
 8/17: lost to China 0-3  
 8/18: def. Cuba 3-2  
 8/19: lost to Netherlands 1-3

### NORCECA Championships (Winnipeg, Canada)

9/17: def. Trinidad & Tobago 3-0  
 9/18: def. Mexico 3-0  
 9/19: def. Dominican Republic 3-0  
 9/21: def. Canada 3-0  
 9/22: lost to Cuba 2-3

### FIVB World Cup (Japan)

11/2: def. Peru 3-0 (at Hamamatsu)  
 11/3: def. Cuba 3-2 (at Hamamatsu)  
 11/4: def. Poland 3-1 (at Hamamatsu)  
 11/6: def. Kenya 3-0 (at Sendai)  
 11/7: def. Brazil 3-2 (at Sendai)  
 11/9: def. Dominican Republic 3-1 (at Kumamoto)  
 11/10: def. Thailand 3-1 (at Kumamoto)  
 11/11: def. Korea 3-0 (at Kumamoto)  
 11/14: lost to Serbia 1-3 (at Nagoya)  
 11/15: def. Japan 3-0 (at Nagoya)  
 11/16: lost to Italy 0-3 (at Nagoya)

## 2008 Schedule Available Soon

**U.S. NATIONAL TRAINING TEAM:** Although most of the U.S. Women's National Team members are overseas playing professional volleyball, several veterans will be back in Colorado Springs starting Jan. 7 to train full time. Foluke Akinradewo (Middle Blocker, Plantation, Fla.), Lindsey Hunter (Setter, Papillion, Neb.), Angie McGinnis (Setter, Fraser, Mich.) and Tracy Stalls (Middle Blocker, Denver, Colo.) are part of the 2008 U.S. Women's National Training Team that commences on Jan. 7. Katie Wilkins (Outside Hitter, Lakeside, Calif.) plans to return to Colorado Springs on Jan. 14, while Cassie Busse (Opposite, Prior Lake, Minn.) is expected to return to training on Jan. 20. Cynthia Barboza (Outside Hitter, Long Beach, Calif.) is planning to join the U.S. Women's National Training Team in March. The national team players currently competing overseas will reconvene training in Colorado Springs by early May 2008.

**2008 INVITATIONAL TRYOUT:** The U.S. Women's National Volleyball Team has invited 12 athletes to a week-long invitation-only tryout held Jan. 7-12 at the U.S. Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs. The individuals who have accepted the invitation are Stanford's Bryn Kehoe (Setter, North Bend, Ohio) and Alix Klineman (Outside Hitter, Manhattan Beach, Calif.); Texas' Juliann Faucette (Outside Hitter, San Diego, Calif.), Destinee Hooker (Outside Hitter, San Antonio, Texas) and Lauren Paolini (Middle Blocker, Ann Arbor, Mich.); UCLA's Nana Meriwether (Middle Blocker, Potomac, Md.), Nellie Spicer (Setter, Barrington, Ill.) and Rachell Johnson (Opposite, San Diego, Calif.); California's Angela Pressey (Outside Hitter, Heathrow, Fla.) and Morgan Beck (Outside Hitter/Middle Blocker, Coto De Caza, Calif.); Cal Poly's Kylie Atherstone (Opposite, Chico, Calif.); Long Beach State's Alexis Crimes (Middle Blocker, Rancho Cucamonga, Calif.), Washington's Alesha Deesing (Middle Blocker, Aumsville, Ore.) and Loyola Marymount's Heather Hughes (Opposite, Fallbrook, Calif.). Out of the tryout list, only Crimes, Hughes, Johnson, Kehoe, Meriwether and Pressey have exhausted their collegiate eligibility. Washington's Alesha Deesing (Middle Blocker, Aumsville, Ore.) was scheduled to attend, but an injury has delayed her tryout until later this year.

**2008 NATIONAL TEAM OPEN TRYOUT:** The U.S. Women's National Team will hold its annual "Open Tryout" at the U.S. Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colo., Feb. 22-24. This tryout will be used to identify possible candidates for the U.S. National and Olympic Team, as well as the A2 program which is planning to train in Atlanta, Ga., from approximately May 19-28, 2008. This time frame includes competing in the 2008 U.S. Open Championships at the Atlanta Convention Center from May 24-27. Registration closes Jan. 15, 2008, but may close early as space is limited. Late registrants will be taken on a space available basis after Jan. 15. Go to the tryout information page (<http://www.usavolleyball.org/media/national/08WTryout.pdf>) for more information and to obtain an application form.

**2008 OLYMPIC GAMES:** The 2008 Olympic Games indoor volleyball competition begins on Aug. 9 and will alternate days with the men's competition in two venues – Capital Indoor Stadium and Beijing Institute of Technology Gymnasium. The quarterfinals are set for Aug. 19, followed by the semifinals on Aug. 21 and championship on Aug. 23.

**2007 REVIEW:** The 2007 U.S. Women's National Volleyball Team Yearbook can be downloaded for free at <http://www.usavolleyball.org/media/national/2007WNTYearbook.pdf>. The 60-page publication includes a recap of the FIVB World Cup which qualified the U.S. into the Olympics (pages 9-10 on the PDF), Olympic qualification quotes (pages 11-12 on the PDF), a 2007 season review (pages 13-14 on the PDF), player and coach bios, 2007 season results (page 43 on the PDF), current quadrennial results/statistics and lots more.

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## U.S. Women’s National Volleyball Program At a Glance

### 2008 U.S. Women’s National Volleyball Training Team \*\*

Foluke Akinradewo (MB, Plantation, Fla.)  
 Cynthia Barboza (OH, Long Beach, Calif.)  
 Cassie Busse (Opp, Prior Lake, Minn.)  
 Lindsey Hunter (S, Papillion, Neb.)  
 Angie McGinnis (S, Fraser, Mich.)  
 Tracy Stalls (MB, Denver, Colo.)  
 Katie Wilkins (OH, Lakeside, Calif.)

\*\* As of Jan. 7, 2008

### U.S. Women’s National Team Competing Professionally Overseas

**Robyn Ah Mow-Santos** (S, Honolulu)  
 Switzerland - VBC Volero

**Lindsey Berg** (S, Honolulu)  
 Italy - Asystel Volley

**Heather Bown** (MB, Yorba Linda, Calif.)  
 Italy - Jesi

**Norisha Campbell** (MB, Lakeland, Fla.)  
 Switzerland - VBC Volero

**Therese Crawford** (OH, Kalamazoo, Mich.)  
 Turkey - Fenerbahce

**Nicole Davis** (L, Stockton, Calif.)  
 TBA

**Kim Glass** (OH, Lancaster, Pa.)  
 Turkey - Fenerbahce

**Tayyiba Haneef-Park** (OPP, Laguna Nigel, Calif.)  
 Turkey - Eczacibasi Istanbul

**Jennifer Joines** (MB, Milpitas, Calif.)  
 Japan - Toyota

**Nancy Metcalf** (OPP, Hull, Iowa)  
 Turkey - Eczacibasi Istanbul

**Ogonna Nnamani** (OH, Normal, Ill.)  
 Italy - Asystel Volley

**Katie Olsovsky** (OPP, Hermosa Beach, Calif.)  
 Spain - Maricha/Tenerife

**Kristin Richards** (OH, Orem, Utah)  
 Russia - VC Universitet Belogorie Belgorod

**Danielle Scott-Arruda** (MB, Baton Rouge, La.)  
 Brazil - Finasa

**Stacy Sykora** (L, Burleson, Texas)  
 Italy - Altamura

**Courtney Thompson** (S, Kent, Wash.)  
 TBA

**Logan Tom** (OH, Salt Lake City, Utah)  
 Russia - Dinamo

**TEAM USA CHINESE CONNECTION:** The U.S. Women’s National Volleyball Team is loaded with Chinese connections as it prepares to play in the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing. Team USA Head Coach “Jenny” Lang Ping will lead the Americans in her hometown of Beijing during the Olympics. U.S. Assistant Coach Yong Li is a native of China. Logan Tom, an outside hitter on the team, is part Chinese American and looking forward to playing in Beijing. “I’m really excited to see my ancestral roots, being part Chinese American,” Tom said. “I am excited to see the Chinese culture, the Forbidden City and the Great Wall.”

**U.S. WOMEN RANKED FOURTH:** The U.S. Women’s National Volleyball Team moved up four spots to fourth place in the FIVB World Ranking after placing third at the FIVB World Cup in November 2007. Brazil leads the international ranking, followed by Italy and Cuba. Russia and China, ranked first and second respectively prior to the World Cup, dropped to fifth and sixth place. Russia did not qualify for the World Cup, while China could not compete in the Olympic qualifying tournament as it already held a spot as the host team.

**LANG PING IN EXCLUSIVE CATEGORY:** “Jenny” Lang Ping, head coach of the U.S. Women’s National Volleyball Team, is a rarity in the international women’s volleyball circles. She is the only female head coach among the top 20 countries listed in the FIVB World Ranking. Lang Ping has Olympic medal experience as both a player and coach while competing in the United States. During the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles, she led her squad to the gold medal over Team USA in the championship match. As head coach of the 1996 Chinese Olympic team that competed in Atlanta, Lang Ping guided China to a silver medal.

**QUALIFIED TEAMS FOR OLYMPIC GAMES:** China has received an automatic berth into the 2008 Olympic Games as the host country. At the FIVB World Cup, Italy, Brazil and the United States all qualified for the Olympics as the top three teams. Cuba captured the NORCECA Olympic Qualifying Championship title on Dec. 22 in Mexico to earn its ticket to the Olympics. Peru hosts the Pre-Olympic South American Championship Jan. 3-7 with Venezuela, Uruguay, Paraguay and Bolivia competing with the Peruvians. Germany hosts the Women’s European Olympic Qualification Tournament Jan. 15-20 with eight teams (Pool A: Croatia, Russia, Serbia and Romania; Pool B: Germany, Netherlands, Poland and Turkey) battling for the one available Olympic Games berth. The African Olympic Qualification Tournament will be Jan. 20-29 at Algeria. The Asian Continental Qualification Tournaments are played combined with the last chance World Olympic Qualification Tournaments in Japan. The women’s tournament will be held from May 17-25 in Tokyo with Japan, Thailand, Korea and Kazakhstan participating.

**PLAYING PRO OVERSEAS:** The U.S. Women’s National Team has 15 players that have officially gone through the transfer process for the current professional season. Robyn Ah Mow-Santos (Honolulu) and Norisha Campbell (Lakeland, Fla.) are registered with VBC Volero in Switzerland. Lindsey Berg (Honolulu) and Heather Bown (Yorba Linda, Calif.) are part of the Italian Serie A league with Asystel Volley and Jesi, respectively. Ogonna Nnamani (Normal, Ill.) and Stacy Sykora (Burleson, Texas) recently joined the Italian Serie A league with Asystel Volley Novara and Jogging Volley Altamura, respectively. Therese Crawford (Kalamazoo, Mich.) and Kim Glass (Lancaster, Pa.) are playing for Fenerbahce Spor Kulubu in Turkey. Tayyiba Haneef-Park (Laguna Hills, Calif.) and Nancy Metcalf (Hull, Iowa) are on the Eczacibasi Istanbul roster in Turkey. Danielle Scott-Arruda (Baton Rouge, La.) returns to Brazil to play for Associacao Desportiva Classista Finasa. Logan Tom (Salt Lake City, Utah) is playing professionally for Club Dinamo Moscow in Russia, while Kristin Richards (Orem, Utah) plays in the same country for VC Universitet Belogorie Belgorod. Jennifer Joines (Milpitas, Calif.) signed to play for Toyota Auto Body of the Japan V League after the FIVB World Cup. Katie Olsovsky (Hermosa Beach, Calif.) plays for Spain’s Maricha/Tenerife.

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**Jan. 7-13, 2008 Workout Schedule****Monday, Jan. 7**

9 a.m. - Noon: Gym  
 3:30-5:30 p.m.: Gym  
 4 p.m.: Weights (Group 1)

**Tuesday, Jan. 8**

9 a.m. - Noon: Gym  
 3:30-5:30 p.m.: Gym  
 4 p.m.: Weights (Group 2)

**Wednesday, Jan. 9**

9 a.m.: SAQ  
 10:30 a.m.: Video  
 2-5 p.m.: Gym

**Thursday, Jan. 10**

9-11:30 a.m.: Gym  
 3:30-5:30 p.m.: Gym  
 4 p.m.: Weights (Group 1)

**Friday, Jan. 11**

9 a.m. - Noon: Gym  
 3:30-5 p.m.: Gym  
 4 p.m.: Weights (Group 2)

**Saturday, Jan. 12**

9-11:30 a.m.: Gym

**Sunday, Jan. 13**

No Practice

**NOTES:**

All Gym sessions in Sports Center II  
 Gyms 8 and 9

Times and location subject to last  
 minute changes

**BOWN AND BERG UPDATE:** Heather Bown (Yorba Linda, Calif.), playing for Jesi in the Italian Serie A League, is averaging 3.24 points per set. She maintains a 45.1 kill percentage with 0.56 blocks per set and 113 points, the seventh most among middle blockers in the league. Jesi is currently seventh in the A League. Lindsey Berg (Honolulu, Hawai'i) has played in 40 sets at setter for fourth-place Asystel Volley of the Italian Serie A League.

**AMERICANS REPRESENTED ON ITALIAN SERIE A ALL-STAR ROSTER:** The Italian Serie A "Kleenex All-Star" match, scheduled for Jan. 11 at Turin's PalaRufini, will have several United States citizens competing for the world team. Through an on-line vote of fans, Heather Bown (Yorba Linda, Calif.), a member of Jesi, made the "rest of the world" team as a middle blocker. Stacy Sykora (Burleson, Texas), who plays for Altamura earned a spot as a libero. Ogonna Nnamani (Normal, Ill.), who plays for Asystel Novara, earned a spot as an outside hitter. Further, non-U.S. Women's National Team member Kim Willoughby (Napoleonville, La.), who represents Chieri, was named to the world team.

**DEMONSTRATORS AT USAV HP COACHES CLINIC:** The U.S. Women's National Volleyball Training Team, along with Stellar Volleyball Club of Colorado Springs, will serve as demonstrators during the 2008 USA Volleyball High Performance Coaches Clinic held Jan. 17-20 at the U.S. Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs. The clinic features world-renowned Russian coach Nikolai Karpov as the keynote speaker. In addition, U.S. Women's National Team Head Coach "Jenny" Lang Ping and U.S. Men's National Team Head Coach Hugh McCutcheon will make presentations during the clinic. The USA Volleyball Coaching Education Department will again offer Coaching Accreditation Program (CAP) opportunities for attendees interested in working toward USA Volleyball Coach Certification. These courses may be purchased while registering for the clinic. To register for the clinic, go to [http://estores.infront.com/usavolleyball/item\\_listing.asp?scid=29](http://estores.infront.com/usavolleyball/item_listing.asp?scid=29).

**PIONEER ERA WOMEN'S NATIONAL TEAM:** The Pioneer Era (1949-1977) of USA Women's Volleyball will hold its 2008 reunion on June 14, 2008. The event will be held at the Sportsmen's Lodge in Studio City, Calif. For more information and an invitation to the reunion, please respond to Linda Murphy by e-mail ([shamrockusa3@yahoo.com](mailto:shamrockusa3@yahoo.com)) or mail (7769 Via Sorrento, Burbank, CA 91504).

## PHOTO GALLERY



**U.S. Women's National Team Invitation Tryouts  
 January 7, 2008**

<http://www.usavolleyball.org/national/010708WNTTryouts.asp>

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## U.S. Women's National Team Invitation Tryout Photo Gallery



## Invited Tryout Players and Added U.S. Women's National Training Team Bios

### Foluke Akinradewo (Middle Blocker, Plantation, Fla., Stanford)

Akinradewo, who hit a team-high .513 for the U.S. Women's National Team this summer at the Pan American Games, helped Stanford win the Pac-10 title outright and NCAA runnerup trophy as a junior in 2007. She hit .499 for the Cardinal this season, while averaging 4.11 kills and 1.21 blocks per game. Akinradewo earned the 2007 AVCA Player of the Year award.

### Kylie Atherstone (Opposite, Chico, Calif., Cal Poly)

Atherstone, a 2007 U.S. National A2 selection and two-time Big West Conference Player of the Year, led the Big West Conference in 2006 for kills per game, total kills and placed third in aces per game as a sophomore in 2006. She currently averages 4.70 kills, 2.58 digs and 0.69 blocks per set in 2007. Atherstone, a 2007 AVCA All-America Third Team pick, helped Cal Poly clinch its second straight Big West title.

### Cynthia Barboza (Outside Hitter, Long Beach, Calif., Stanford)

Barboza, an AVCA All-America First-Team selection in 2006 and 2007, averaged 2.79 points per set while starting for the U.S. National Team at the Pan American Cup and Pan American Games this past summer. As a junior at Stanford this year, she averaged 4.50 points and 3.25 digs per game. Barboza, a first alternate for Team USA at the 2004 Olympic Games, has 1,237 kills and 883 digs at Stanford.

### Morgan Beck (Outside Hitter/Middle Blocker, Coto De Caza, Calif., California)

Beck helped the California to its first-ever NCAA Championship semifinal appearance in 2007 as she averaged 3.14 points, 2.39 kills, 1.03 blocks and 1.66 digs per game. She has earned All-Pac 10 honorable mention the past two seasons. Beck has 913 kills and 296 blocks through her junior season.

### Alexis Crimes (Middle Blocker, Rancho Cucamonga, Calif., Long Beach State)

Crimes, a three-time AVCA All-America honorable mention, averages 4.48 kills, 1.30 blocks and 1.78 digs for Long Beach State in 2007. She holds 1,756-career kills and 598-career blocks. Crimes has eight 20-plus kill matches as a senior.

### Juliann Faucette (Outside Hitter, San Diego, Calif., Texas)

Faucette, the 2007 AVCA National Freshman of the Year and AVCA All-America First-Team pick, ranked among the top three the Big 12 in kills per game with a 4.47 average. Faucette, who played a major role on the gold-medal winning U.S. Women's Junior National Team at the 2006 NORCECA Continental Championship, made the jump to the U.S. Women's National Team roster for the Azteca TV Cup in September 2006.

### Destinee Hooker (Outside Hitter, San Antonio, Texas, Texas)

As a sophomore, Hooker averaged 5.51 points per set for Texas while hitting at a .347 percentage leading to an AVCA All-America honor. A multi-sport standout with two NCAA Division I outdoor high jump championship titles, she ranks among the top three in the Big 12 in kills per game at 4.55 in 2007. As a freshman, she was named to the AVCA All-America Honorable Mention Team.

### Heather Hughes (Opposite, Fallbrook, Calif., Loyola Marymount)

Hughes earned AVCA All-Pacific Region honorable mention and All-West Coast Conference First Team honors in her final season at Loyola Marymount. She finished first in the WCC in kills and points with 5.00 and 5.56 per game, respectively. Hughes led the nation in kills per game from Sept. 10 to Nov. 4, a span of eight weeks. She holds school career records for aces (157), second in kills (1,679) and digs (1,261), and fourth in kill average (3.83).

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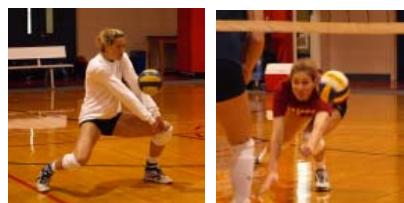
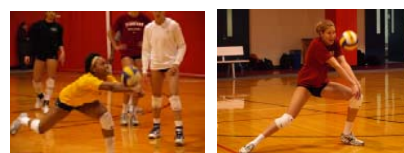
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## U.S. Women's National Team Invitation Tryout Photo Gallery

**Rachell Johnson (Opposite, San Diego, Calif., UCLA)**

Johnson averages 1.17 blocks and 3.27 kills per game for UCLA in 2007. She has eight matches this season with at least five blocks. Johnson tallied a personal-high 11 block versus Arizona State on Sept. 21.

**Bryn Kehoe (Setter, North Bend, Ohio, Stanford)**

Kehoe, a three-time AVCA All-American, has been a four-year starting setter for Stanford. As a senior in 2007, she topped the NCAA in assist average helping Stanford to a NCAA fifth-place ranking in team attack percentage. Kehoe was a member of the 2005 U.S. National Team that competed at the Montreux Masters.

**Alix Klineman (Outside Hitter, Manhattan Beach, Calif., Stanford)**

Klineman, the 2006 National Gatorade Player of the Year in high school sports, averages 4.86 points and 2.69 digs per set in her first season at Stanford. She has scored double-digit kills in 24 of 28 Cardinal matches. Klineman, an AVCA All-America Second Team selection in 2007, averaged 4.88 points per set to lead the U.S. Women's Junior National Team to a fourth-place finish at the FIVB Junior World Championship.

**Angie McGinnis (Setter, Fraser, Mich., Florida)**

McGinnis, a two-time SEC Player of the Year and only setter to ever receive the honor, has set Florida to a league-high .310 hitting percentage in 2007. She is averaging a career-best 13.74 assists per game as a senior and is the first Gator setter to reach 1,000-career digs. McGinnis, a two-time AVCA All-American, competed for the U.S. National Team in 2005 as part of the Pan American Cup roster.

**Nana Meriwether (Middle Blocker, Potomac, Md., UCLA)**

Meriwether, who completed her collegiate eligibility at UCLA in 2006, led the NCAA Division I with a .448 season attack percentage and a 1.95 blocks per-game average as a senior, becoming the first player in NCAA Division I history to lead the final national statistical standings in two different categories for the same season. She helped the Bruins to a 33-4 record in 2006 and their first NCAA Tournament semifinal appearance since 1994.

**Lauren Paolini (Middle Blocker, Ann Arbor, Mich., Texas)**

Paolini, a 2007 U.S. National A2 selection, finished this past season second in blocking at Texas with a 1.28 average this season. In addition, she has produced a team-leading .415 attack percentage in helping the Longhorns to a third-place ranking in the final regular season CSTV/AVCA Division I Coaches Poll.

**Angie Pressey (Outside Hitter, Heathrow, Fla., California)**

Pressey, a 2007 U.S. National A2 selection, is a two-time AVCA All-American Second-Team pick. She is the first Cal player to be named All-Pac 10 three years in a row. In 2007, Pressey helped the Bears to the NCAA Championship semifinals by averaging 4.19 kills, 2.82 digs and 0.89 blocks per game. She finished her career with 1,710 kills.

**Tracy Stalls (Middle Blocker, Denver, Colo., Nebraska)**

Stalls, who has trained and competed with the U.S. Women's National Team before attending Nebraska and as recently as this summer, ranks third nationally in attack percentage (.473) and adds 2.83 kills and 1.13 blocks per game. She earned her second consecutive AVCA All-America Second-Team recognition after the 2007 season. Stalls hit .615 with a 2.25 kill average while playing with the U.S. National Team this summer at the Pan America Cup.

**Nellie Spicer (Setter, Barrington, Ill., UCLA)**

Spicer earned her second consecutive AVCA All-America First-Team honor in 2007. A first-team All-Pacific Region and All-Pac-10 selection, she averaged 12.92 assists and 3.07 digs as the Bruins reached the NCAA Region Final round. Spicer had 22 double-doubles on the year, producing at least 50 assists in a match 14 times.

# Beijing Ticket Secured, Team USA Earns Bronze at World Cup

The U.S. Women's National Volleyball Team finished the 2007 FIVB World Cup with a 9-2 record and bronze medal, but the final place on the medal stand took a back seat after the Americans earned a ticket to the 2008 Olympic Games on the second to last day of the tournament.

The FIVB Volleyball World Cup, held every four years in the preceding year to the Olympics, is the first of three Olympic qualification steps for Beijing 2008. The top three teams at the World Cup qualify for the 2008 Olympics. The FIVB World Cup is a 12-team event with a round-robin playing format of 11 matches in 15 days.

"I am very excited and proud of my players," said Team USA middle blocker Danielle Scott-Arruda (Baton Rouge, La.). "We fought very hard for each other. It is always difficult to qualify for the Olympics from the World Cup because it is the best teams. (The Olympic Games berth) alleviates some of the stress we would have had playing in the NORCECA qualification or after that. Now we can go to our professional leagues. Our teams are happy, everyone is happy!"

The U.S. started off the tournament with an 8-0 record heading into the fourth and final stage held in Nagoya. Team USA rebounded from a Nov. 14 loss to Serbia by defeating Japan in straight sets on Nov. 15 to assure itself a spot on the medal stand and berth in the Olympics. On the final day of the event, the Americans lost to gold-medalist Italy. Brazil finished with the silver with a 9-2 record, despite the U.S. winning the head-to-head match on Nov. 7.



Photo courtesy of FIVB

"I am very relieved," U.S. Women's National Team Head Coach 'Jenny' Lang Ping said. "I feel great because the team came here four days before the start of the

tournament and we had a very short time to get together. Especially we have some older players who have played with injuries, so I am very proud of them."

For Lang Ping, she returns to the Olympics in her hometown of Beijing. She has already competed on the ultimate stage as a player and coach for her native country, China.

"For athletes and coaches the Olympic Games is a dream," Lang Ping said. "I have been there as a player and a coach. Also, Beijing is my hometown, and I feel like I am going home, with the USA volleyball family. Hopefully we will have a great performance there."

## USA Results at World Cup

### at Hamamatsu, Japan

11/2: def. Peru 25-23, 25-14, 25-19  
11/3: def. Cuba 20-25, 25-21, 25-18, 20-25, 15-11  
11/4: def. Poland 25-21, 12-25, 27-25, 25-17

### at Sendai, Japan

11/6: def. Kenya 25-9, 25-20, 25-10  
11/7: def. Brazil 17-25, 16-25, 25-21, 25-23, 15-9

### at Kumamoto, Japan

11/9: def. Dominican Republic 25-16, 20-25, 25-16, 25-18  
11/10: def. Thailand 21-25, 25-19, 25-11, 25-13  
11/11: def. South Korea 25-21, 25-19, 25-23

### at Nagoya, Japan

11/14: lost to Serbia 26-28, 25-23, 20-25, 23-25  
11/15: def. Japan 25-17, 25-14, 25-20  
11/16: lost to Italy 20-25, 18-25, 25-27

For Cassie Busse (Prior Lake, Minn.), who is attempting to make her first Olympic Games roster, the Olympic qualification was not just the World Cup itself. It started many months ago to reach this point.

"It is such an amazing feeling," Busse said. "After a long season of working hard, we can finally see the fruits of our labor. All are hard work paid off."

The U.S. was shut out of the post-tournament specialty honors based on its balanced team with many players shining at different times. Logan Tom (Salt Lake City, Utah) finished third in the overall scoring race with 164 points, while also ranking sixth in the Best Blocker race, and 13<sup>th</sup> in the Best Spiker and Best Digger categories. Tayyiba Haneef-Park (Laguna Hills, Calif.) tallied 143 points for 10<sup>th</sup> place among all scorers, while ranking third in the Best Spikers award for best kill percentage. Danielle Scott-Arruda (Baton Rouge, La.) placed third in the Best Blocker category, while earning 110 points for 25<sup>th</sup> place in Best Scorer. Kim Glass (Lancaster, Pa.), playing in only her second international event with Team USA, finished 14<sup>th</sup> in Best Server and 51<sup>st</sup> in Best Scorer.



Photo courtesy of FIVB

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(continued from page 6)



Front (L-R): Diane French, Sue Woodstra, Robyn Ah Mow-Santos, Cassie Busse, Danielle Scott-Arruda, Heather Bown, Nicole Davis, Lang Ping, Ogonna Nnamani.

Back (L-R): Logan Tom, Stacy Sykora, Lindsey Berg, Tayyiba Haneef-Park, Kim Glass, Jen Joines, Dr. Sherwin Ho, Tom Hogan.

Heather Bown (Yorba Linda, Calif.), despite missing three entire matches, finished 41<sup>st</sup> in scoring with 82 points. She also converted 56.3 percent of her kill attempts but failed to reach the minimum of 15 percent of the team's attacks for qualification for Best Spiker (52.5 percent by Cuba's Nancy Carrillo led the tournament).

Robyn Ah Mow-Santos (Honolulu) and Lindsey Berg (Honolulu) shared the setting duties during the tournament. Ah Mow-Santos ranked ninth in assist average, while Berg was 13<sup>th</sup>. By combining the two setters' assist averages, it would rank third in the tournament.

Nicole Davis (Stockton, Calif.) finished fourth at the World Cup in the Best Digger category with 2.66 digs per set. She also ranked 12<sup>th</sup> in the Best Receiver category.

**Best Scorers:** 3T. Logan Tom (164 Points); 10. Tayyiba Haneef-Park (143); 25. Danielle Scott-Arruda (110); 41. Heather Bown (82); 51. Kim Glass (71); 66. Ogonna Nnamani (44); 67. Jennifer Joines (40); 82T. Cassie Busse (21); 97. Robyn Ah Mow-Santos (14); Lindsey Berg (5).

**Best Spikers:** 3. Tayyiba Haneef-Park (48.65 kill percentage); 13. Logan Tom (42.27)

**Best Blockers:** 3. Danielle Scott-Arruda (0.76 blocks per set); 6. Logan Tom (0.63); 34. Heather Bown (0.34); 45. Jennifer Joines (0.27); 47. Kim Glass (0.24); 49. Tayyiba Haneef-Park (0.24); 72. Robyn Ah Mow-Santos (0.12); 92. Ogonna Nnamani (0.07); 97. Cassie Busse (0.05); 114. Lindsey Berg (0.02).

## FIVB World Cup Standings

### 2007 FIVB World Cup Final Standings

**Gold:** Italy 11-0 (1.421 Point Ratio)

**Silver:** Brazil 9-2 (1.328 Point Ratio)

**Bronze:** USA 9-2 (1.145 Point Ratio)

Cuba 8-3 (1.073 Point Ratio)

Serbia 7-4 (1.051 Point Ratio)

Poland 6-5 (1.107 Point Ratio)

Japan 6-5 (1.022 Point Ratio)

Korea 4-7 (0.973 Point Ratio)

Dominican Republic 3-8 (0.875 Point Ratio)

Thailand 2-9 (0.848 Point Ratio)

Peru 1-10 (0.796 Point Ratio)

Kenya 0-11 (0.579 Point Ratio)

**Best Servers:** 14. Kim Glass (0.22 aces per set); 27. Tayyiba Haneef-Park (0.17); 41. Danielle Scott-Arruda (0.12); 42. Robyn Ah Mow-Santos (0.12); 56. Logan Tom (0.10); 65. Ogonna Nnamani (0.07); 71. Lindsey Berg (0.05); 100. Jennifer Joines (0.02); 105. Cassie Busse (0.02).

**Best Diggers:** 4. Nicole Davis (2.66 digs per set); 13. Logan Tom (1.90); 38. Kim Glass (0.85); 56. Tayyiba Haneef-Park (0.56); 62. Robyn Ah Mow-Santos (0.51); 69. Lindsey Berg (0.46); 80. Danielle Scott-Arruda (0.37); 86. Ogonna Nnamani (0.29); 87. Heather Bown (0.29); 98. Stacy Sykora (0.22); 104. Cassie Busse (0.17); 108. Jennifer Joines (0.15).

**Best Setters:** 9. Robyn Ah Mow-Santos (5.15 assists per set); 13. Lindsey Berg (3.78).

**Best Receivers:** 12. Nicole Davis (53.36 efficiency percentage)



# Quote Board After Olympic Qualification

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## **Danielle Scott-Arruda (Middle Blocker, Baton Rouge, La.)**

It is not easy to qualify for the Olympics, so it feels wonderful. It is great to know that we can play under pressure, and reach our objectives even with injuries. It is a great stress relieved of anticipation of when we will qualify – World Cup, NORCECA... Now we can focus on our next goals.

I don't ever look at our team as the underdog, as every team seems to play their best when matched against the USA. The World Cup is the last tournament of the year, so we've faced some of these teams at the Grand Prix and NORCECA events, and had enough scouting information. I think our team peeked at the right moment this year, and we added two players to the final 12 of the World Cup roster who haven't been seen the last few years with USA Volleyball. So that was like an element of surprise.

This World Cup, as well as the previous, we had a lot of veterans who had gone through this type of tournament situation. Our staff's plan of attack for maximum performance for such a grueling format was critical...from varying the types of training sessions, video preparation, to getting therapy from our long-time trainer Emery Hill. Finally, each match was a total team effort. That was the key to our success.

Now I look forward to seeing my husband and joining my team in Brazil – Finasa Osasco – that is already in the semifinal phase of the Paulista Championship. I've been so blessed to be healthy overall with only minor aches – nothing my flexgen cream and massage didn't knock out – and an annoying cough. So I look forward to the warm weather in Brazil to hopefully speed up my recovery. My goal is to return to the national team in even better condition, better skills and ready to compete for a spot on each roster, fight to medal in tournaments leading to the Beijing Games as well as at the Olympic Games. WooHoo! I am excited already!

## **Nicole Davis (Stockton, Calif.)**

It feels wonderful to be qualified this early. It's a big relief in one aspect, at the same time, it is a big accomplishment for this team. The second and last chance qualifiers are going to be so highly competitive for the remaining teams.

We, as a collective group, were so determined to win matches to put us in a position to qualify, that nothing else mattered.

Our resilience and resolve to win was a large factor. Our chemistry and experience was another integral factor. The majority of our team had been through World Cup before, and were great leaders for those of us who had not.

I am looking to play professionally overseas. I'd like to come back next summer with more experience, in great mental and physical shape, and excited about volleyball. That's the best thing I can do for myself and for the team.

## **Lindsey Berg (Setter, Honolulu, Hawai'i)**

Going into this tournament it was our goal to qualify. Personally, I knew we could do it and I think the whole team knew we could do it. I was determined to come home qualified for the Olympics. Being qualified after the first tournament is a huge accomplishment. World Cup was not only the first qualifier, but is also in my book the hardest tournament of the whole quad including the Olympics. The team feels great about our accomplishment and look forward to bringing all together again for next summer.

I think we were only underdogs because we had not yet put our team together. We had some girls return just this summer, and the real USA team began to form. I still think we can improve a lot and will do so. That is very exciting considering our success at World Cup. I did think it was an advantage for us going in to World Cup really not expecting anything. We knew our goal, but we just played one match at a time with that goal in mind and succeeded. The world has definitely not seen the USA team at full strength yet and that is a very exciting thought to me.

We took one match at a time, and it was a complete team effort. Everyone played in this tournament. We were able to make subs when needed and everyone gave all they had and played their part. With this type of tournament, because of the length, this quality of a team is necessary to have. As a team we stayed positive the entire event and knew why we were there, and that is all that was on our mind. We are very proud of ourselves and going to enjoy this accomplishment for a little bit before we get back next summer.

I have already returned to my professional team in Italy. I went back to the States for only one night before returning. I am going to work hard for this team but also work on keeping my body healthy and improving my game in any way that will be able to help USA next summer. Playing professionally is a big advantage I believe. You are able to play with and against the best in the world, which eventually makes you a better player.

## **Ogonna Nnamani (Outside Hitter, Normal, Ill.)**

It feels great! We all feel so relieved! To qualify is certainly not an easy task. We no longer have that crazy homework assignment hanging over our heads!

It was a total team effort. Everyone was on the same page, the whole team was willing to work hard and do whatever it took to be successful at the hardest tournament of the quadrennial.

Our experience and the fighting spirit of Americans! We will always fight until the end no matter the outcome.

I am fortunate to have made a lot of steps in the right direction this year. I hope to continue to improve, get stronger and continue to collect more experiences that will help me when it counts!

# Quote Board After Olympic Qualification

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## **Cassie Busse (Opposite, Prior Lake, Minn.)**

It is such an amazing feeling. After a long season of working hard, we can finally see the fruits of our labor. All are hard work paid off.

We had a lot of ups and downs throughout the season, but we all came together in the end. It was all about playing with and for each other. We're so close as a team, and our chemistry was the base for our success. Every team that we faced in the World Cup was a team that was trying to take something away from us, trying to take something away from my teammate. We were not going to let that happen; some other team was not going to steal that from us.

We were focused on taking each game one at a time. For each round, we looked at it as we were starting from scratch. Nothing mattered but that particular game. From the very beginning of the season, every practice, every weight session, every tournament, every game was about bringing us to this point. As a team, we were all on the same page, shooting for the same goal; prepared to sacrifice whatever it took to get there.

For me personally, I am undecided on what to do. When we get back to the States, my immediate plans are to spend time with my family. If I stay in Colorado Springs training, or if I go overseas, whatever I will do will be an effort to improve and continue to work hard for Beijing.

## **Jen Joines (Middle Blocker, Milpitas, Calif.)**

I am so glad to be able to tell people, "YES, the Olympics are in Beijing this summer and YES, WE WILL BE THERE!"

We worked out some kinks between our blocking and defense. Once we settled on a game plan and executed it, everything fell into place.

I think the team really stepped up our practices this year. Our practices have become more goal-driven and less technical. Early in the quad we HAD to get on the same page with technique and defensive and offensive relationships. Now we put it all together and do a lot more competitive drills. This is a team that enjoys the sport when we play at a really high level and when we're competing. We ALWAYS feel better after finishing a really tough practice, even when our bodies are feeling fatigued, our desire to compete and work hard makes those practices the most exciting!! We made huge improvements with this mentality.

Each player knows what they need to work on to get an edge against our toughest opponents. When we leave the team we get a chance to be a little selfish and work on improving our individual skills. I can't wait for our first practices back together when we can bring it all together.

## **Tayyiba Haneef-Park (Opposite, Laguna Hills, Calif.)**

It is a big relief and a weight has been lifted off of our shoulders. It was a long tough tournament and now we will have time to rest instead of preparing for another tournament in Mexico.

Many people didn't expect us to qualify so we played every game with the attitude that we would do whatever possible to win. It wasn't always pretty, but our goal was to qualify no matter what.

I think this was a real team effort. The depth of our roster really showed this tournament. Every person was able to come in and make an immediate impact, whereas when the quad began, we didn't have that depth.

Most important for me is to get healthy. World Cup was a difficult tournament for me battling and injury. I hope to relax for a while and then join my team in Turkey when I am better.

## **Stacy Sykora (Libero, Burleson, Texas)**

I am really proud of the team for qualifying on the first opportunity. It was a totally team effort, everyone played a role, small or big but since we were all on the same page and sacrificed for one another, the outcome was qualification. It is great to already be qualified, that way our focus now becomes Beijing and medaling.

I never put USA as an underdog. We are always a team to be reckoned with. There was not a doubt in my mind that we were not going to make some noise at the World Cup. I actually said we were not going to lose and we were gonna play Italy for the title the last game, and I said that while we were in Colorado. We have a lot of experience as a team and I think bringing Logan back was the missing piece to the USA puzzle.

There were many factors of success. As I stated before, the return of Logan was crucial but also I believe the confidence of the team was high. We all had the same goal, we were all on the same page and we all were making personal sacrifices for the benefit of the team. We had a lot of injuries this tournament, more than I have experienced in my career, but we fought through them as a team. People had to step up and it all panned out perfectly. It was scary at times, we had some serious injuries to very vital players but it was great to see the team mesh together and not use it as an excuse.

Now that we are qualified, most players will go overseas and others will take a break and then come back to start training in Colorado. I personally will probably go overseas. After taking a year and a half off, I personally need to get in the gym and touch some balls.

Qualifying was great, we are very happy, but at the end of the World Cup we didn't just want to qualify, we wanted to win, and we didn't. So going into 2008, I think we have a new mind set, and some unfinished business to take care of. This team can medal and we all will make the sacrifices to make it happen.

## 2007 Team USA Season Review

Summer 2007 started with the big picture for the U.S. Women's National Volleyball Team and worked itself toward the fine details and brush strokes that led to its 2008 Olympics qualification. The summer canvas, or results sheet, painted a picture of a team laying the groundwork toward Beijing, as well as a glimpse into the team's future beyond 2008.

Among the crafted storylines this season include:

- Veterans Tayyiba Haneef-Park (Laguna Hills, Calif.) and Danielle Scott-Arruda (Baton Rouge, La.) providing veteran leadership and consistent scoring in the final four tournaments of the season. Haneef-Park switched positions to opposite, her 2004 Olympics position, for the FIVB World Grand Prix and FIVB World Cup. Scott-Arruda provided a stabilizing influence using her vast national team experience.
- Return of two-time Olympians Logan Tom (Salt Lake City, Utah) and Stacy Sykora (Burlington, Texas) after nearly three years away from the U.S. Women's National Indoor Team.
- Circling the globe in pursuit of maximizing the roster's potential. Team USA competed in seven different different countries on four continents. Opposite Cassie Busse (Prior Lake, Minn.) has logged the most frequent flyer miles by being the only player to compete in every tournament in 2007.
- A good problem to have with a crowded setter spot as Lindsey Berg (Honolulu) returned to the team after nearly a year hiatus. Captain Robyn Ah Mow-Santos (Honolulu) set for the U.S. at four of the five tournaments. Courtney Thompson (Kent, Wash.), less than a year out of college, helped U.S. to a bronze medal at the Pan American Games. Thompson was one of only two players to compete in the first three summer tournaments for Team USA. Further, Lindsey Hunter (Papillion, Neb.)



Photo Courtesy of FIVB



Photo Courtesy of FIVB

started the first two matches at the Pan American Games.

- Emergence of Kim Glass (Lancaster, Pa.) as an option at outside hitter in her first international competition at FIVB World Grand Prix. She continued to impress on the largest stage of the year at the FIVB World Cup.
- College players Tracy Stalls (Denver, Colo.), Cynthia Barboza (Long Beach, Calif.), Foluke Akinradewo (Plantation, Fla.) and Marcie Hampton (Gainesville, Fla.) providing glimpses what may not be too far off in the future for Team USA.
- Confidence gained by wins over Brazil and Cuba at the FIVB World Cup, along with a win over FIVB top-ranked Russia during the FIVB World Grand Prix.

The U.S. claimed the silver medal at the NORCECA Continental Championship to earn a berth into the 2007 FIVB World Cup. Team USA swept Trinidad & Tobago, Mexico and Dominican Republic during pool play, then handled host Canada in three sets during the semifinals. Cuba outlasted the U.S. 22-25, 25-18, 19-25, 25-23, 18-16 to win the gold medal.

To reach this point in the season, U.S. Women's National Team Head Coach 'Jenny' Lang Ping elected to use a combination of veteran and young players at the season's first two events, the Pan American Cup held June 21-29 at Colima, Mexico, and the Pan American Games held July 14-19 at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

After going undefeated during the Pan American Cup pool play, the U.S. finished the tournament in fourth place. However, Team USA reached most of its goals by qualifying for the 2008 FIVB World Grand Prix while playing a young roster against predominantly veteran opponents.

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(2007 Team USA Season Review continuation)



Photo Courtesy of FIVB

Half the Pan American Cup roster carried over to the Pan American Games at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Haneef-Park and Scott-Arruda, the U.S. delegation flag bearer for the Pan American Games Opening Ceremony, provided a key balance of veteran leadership to a young squad.

Team USA collected victories over Costa Rica and Puerto Rico in pool play, but was overmatched by Cuba's top team in the final preliminary match. After a rough start against host Brazil in the semifinals, the U.S. stayed close the final two periods of a three-set loss. The Americans rebounded with a sweep of Peru to claim the bronze medal.

Lang Ping assembled a veteran roster for the FIVB World Grand Prix after evaluating the college players and relatively new players to the international scene. However, the U.S. Women's National Team faced a daunting task to qualify for the FIVB World Grand Prix Finals through three weekends of preliminary action in three distinct locations: Rzeszow, Poland; Khabarovsk, Russia; and Macau, China.

Team USA finished seventh at the conclusion of the three World Grand Prix preliminary round weekends with a 5-4 record, just out of qualification for the Finals Round. The American squad held destiny in its own hands up to the final day of preliminary matches, but lost to Netherlands in four sets in a match that guaranteed the winner a berth in the Final Round.

The U.S. started the Grand Prix with wins over Poland and Russia, the world's top-ranked team, at Poland. Both squads qualified for the six-team FIVB World Grand Prix Finals.

During the second week of the tournament, the U.S. defeated NORCECA rival Cuba and Kazakhstan. After the first two weeks of preliminary action, Team USA had lost to just 2004 Olympic champion China and Russia in a rematch on its home court.

During the final preliminary weekend in Macau, the U.S. dropped a second three-set match to host China to put the Americans in a must-win situation the rest of the round. Team USA responded with a four-set win over Cuba, but failed to earn the finals berth after losing to Netherlands.

Based on the final win-loss records for the 12 countries competing in the FIVB World Grand Prix preliminary rounds, Team USA had the third toughest schedule. The U.S. faced a schedule that compiled 45 wins in the tournament. Chinese Taipei opponents cataloged 55 wins, thanks in part to three matches against Brazil and seven matches versus above .500 teams for the tournament. China played a tournament-high eight matches against teams with at least a .500 record for a total of 48 victories.

With the addition of Tom and Sykora to the roster, Team USA accomplished its top season goal by qualifying for the 2008 Olympic Games at the FIVB World Cup held Nov. 2-16 in Japan. The Americans opened up the tournament with eight straight victories highlighted by a five-set rally over Brazil. After a stumble against Serbia to open the final stage in Nagoya, the U.S. rebounded to sweep host Japan to secure its ticket to Beijing in 2008. After dropping a match to Italy in the tournament finale with the ultimate prize already in hand, the American players proudly wore their World Cup bronze medals upon leaving Japan.

"I think this was a real team effort," Haneef-Park said. "The depth of our roster really showed this tournament. Every person was able to come in and make an immediate impact, whereas when the quad began, we didn't have that depth."



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## 2007 Team USA Coaching Staff



**“Jenny” Lang Ping**  
Head Coach  
USA Women’s National Team  
Fourth Year (68-38)

“Jenny” Lang Ping of China, one of the most famous and respected individuals in the history of volleyball, begins her fourth year leading the U.S. women’s national team.

Lang Ping guided the Americans to a 26-11 record in 2007 with three medal stands in five tournaments. Using youthful rosters at the Pan American Cup and Pan American Games, Team USA finished fourth and third, respectively. The U.S. finished seventh in the FIVB World Grand Prix Preliminary Round with a 5-4 record that included a win over then-top-ranked Russia and two victories over Cuba. The Americans earned the silver medal at the NORCECA Continental Championship in Winnipeg, Canada, despite having a roster of decimated by injuries. With the addition Olympians Logan Tom and Stacy Sykora to the roster, Team USA won its first eight matches at the grueling FIVB World Cup en route to claiming the bronze medal. The U.S. won nine of 11 matches in the tournament, including a five-set victory over season-ending top-ranked Brazil. With the medal stand appearance, the U.S. earned a berth into the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing, which is Lang Ping’s hometown.

Lang Ping led the U.S. to a 16-12 record in 2006 when using a full U.S. senior national team against international competition. The U.S. finished fourth at the 2006 Pan American Cup, which qualified the Americans for the 2007 World Grand Prix. Team USA finished seventh at the 2006 World Grand Prix and was in contention for the final round up to the last match of the preliminaries. The U.S., ranked seventh in the latest FIVB world rankings, finished ninth at the 2006 World Championships after competing in the strongest first two round groupings based on world rankings.

In her first year as head coach, Lang Ping guided the USA Women’s National Volleyball Team to a record of 26-15. After a slow start to the season, the Americans earned medals in each of their final three events: a gold medal at the FIVB World Championship Qualifying Tournament (at Puerto Rico); a gold medal at the NORCECA Championships (at Trinidad and Tobago); and a silver medal at the FIVB World Grand Champions Cup (at Japan). Team USA finished the year by winning 15 of its last 17 matches, including a stunning 3-0 win over 2004 Olympic gold medalist China at the Grand Champions Cup in November 2005.

Known as the “Iron Hammer” during her playing days, Lang Ping, 44, was inducted into the Volleyball Hall of Fame as a player on Oct. 18, 2002, culminating an incredible career that saw her establish herself as one of the finest female volleyball players ever.

Lang Ping was a member of the Chinese women’s national team that won an Olympic gold medal over the United States at the

1984 Summer Games in Los Angeles, a World Championship crown in 1982 and World Cup titles in 1981 and 1985.

Revered by Chinese fans, Lang Ping has been honored with her own postage stamp, had her wedding broadcast on Chinese national television and has stadiums named after her in China.

She later became a well-respected coach in multiple countries. From 1987-1989 and 1992-1993 Lang Ping was assistant coach at the University of New Mexico. From 1993-1995 she was the head coach of the Yaohan Professional World Superstar Team in Japan.

In 1995, Lang Ping became the head coach of the Chinese national team and eventually guided the squad to the silver medal at the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta. Later that year she earned FIVB Coach of the Year honors. China also captured a silver medal at the 1998 World Championship, a bronze medal at the 1995 World Cup and a gold medal at the 1995 Asian Championships during her tenure. She resigned from her job as coach in early 1999.

After leaving China’s national team program in 1999, Lang Ping was head coach for a number of championship teams in the Italian League. Before accepting the Team USA position, she was the head coach of the Peralisi Volleyball Club (Club Jesi). Among her players at the time in Italy was two-time USA Olympic libero Stacy Sykora.

Lang Ping took over her current position from former Team USA coach Toshi Yoshida, who resigned late in 2004 to accept a professorship position at Biwako Seikei Sport College in Japan.

“(Jenny) is an individual who has been uncommonly successful in every phase of her career as a player and a coach, and her accomplishments are unequalled,” USA Chief Executive Officer Doug Beal said. “She won every major event as a player for China during her career and was clearly the dominant player in the world in the 1980s.

“And she transitioned more seamlessly than almost anyone in volleyball history to her role as a coach, leading China to a silver medal at the Atlanta Olympics in 1996 and successfully coaching professionally in Italy for many years.”

Others within USA Volleyball echo the sentiments that Lang Ping is the right choice to lead Team USA.

“Doug Beal has made a good and bold choice with the selection of ‘Jenny’ Lang Ping as our new women’s national team coach,” said USA Volleyball President, Al Monaco “It is a good choice for the continued solidification of the USA women among the world’s elite, and it is a bold choice for the future of female volleyball coaches in the U.S.

“By hiring Jenny, USA Volleyball is sending a loud message to the world that we are serious about having our women’s team be the best, and to the nation that we are committed to the advancement of females at the top levels of coaching.”



Photo Courtesy of FIVB  
“Jenny” Lang Ping

## 2007 USA Women's National Team Schedule/Results (26-11)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Opponent (Record)</u>	<u>Result</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Pts Leader</u>	<u>Attend</u>
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### Pan American Cup (Colima, Mexico)

6/21	Argentina	W, 17-25, 25-20, 25-23, 25-16	Colima, Mexico	Barboza - 15	1,200
6/22	Costa Rica	W, 25-14, 25-15, 25-13	Colima, Mexico	Stalls - 11	200
6/23	Dominican Republic	W, 20-25, 18-25, 26-24, 18-25, 15-13	Colima, Mexico	Wilkins - 24	1,475
6/24	Trinidad & Tobago	W, 25-8, 25-9, 25-5	Colima, Mexico	Wilkins - 10	600
6/25	Mexico	W, 25-18, 25-12, 25-11	Colima, Mexico	Barboza - 13	2,500
6/28	Brazil	L, 15-25, 15-25, 18-25	Colima, Mexico	Busse - 10	1,800
6/29	Dominican Republic	L, 19-25, 28-26, 18-25, 26-28	Colima, Mexico	Wilkins - 19	1,200

**Final Standings:** 1. Cuba; 2. Brazil; 3. Dominican Republic; **4. USA**; 5. Puerto Rico; 6. Argentina; 7. Peru; 8. Costa Rica; 9. Canada; 10. Mexico; 11. Uruguay; 12. Trinidad & Tobago.

### Pan American Games (Rio De Janeiro, Brazil)

7/14	Costa Rica	W, 25-9, 25-19, 25-12	Rio De Janeiro, Brazil	Haneef-Park - 14	1,835
7/15	Puerto Rico	W, 21-25, 25-18, 25-16, 25-22	Rio De Janeiro, Brazil	Haneef-Park - 18	2,777
7/16	Cuba	L, 16-25, 23-25, 15-25	Rio De Janeiro, Brazil	Akinradewo - 10	8,635
7/18	Brazil (semifinal)	L, 13-25, 20-25, 20-25	Rio De Janeiro, Brazil	Barboza - 11	12,517
7/19	Peru (third-place match)	W, 25-22, 25-22, 25-22	Rio De Janeiro, Brazil	Haneef-Park - 15	2,130

**Final Standings:** 1. Cuba; 2. Brazil; **3. USA**; 4. Peru; 5. Dominican Republic; 6. Puerto Rico; 7. Mexico; 8. Costa Rica.

### FIVB World Grand Prix

8/3	Poland	W, 19-25, 18-25, 25-17, 25-15, 15-12	Rzeszow, Poland	Haneef-Park - 19	4,100
8/4	Russia	W, 25-23, 25-22, 25-13	Rzeszow, Poland	Haneef-Park - 22	3,600
8/5	China	L, 21-25, 28-30, 20-25	Rzeszow, Poland	Glass - 16	4,125
8/10	Cuba	W, 25-19, 25-22, 21-25, 25-22	Khabarovsk, Russia	Haneef-Park, Glass - 15	3,500
8/11	Russia	L, 25-18, 18-25, 24-26, 25-21, 6-15	Khabarovsk, Russia	Glass - 21	6,650
8/12	Kazakhstan	W, 25-21, 20-25, 25-21, 26-24	Khabarovsk, Russia	Scott-Arruda - 23	6,200
8/17	China	L, 18-25, 17-25, 22-25	Macau, China	Haneef-Park - 17	4,100
8/18	Cuba	W, 18-25, 25-21, 25-23, 22-25, 15-13	Macau, China	Glass - 19	3,500
8/19	Netherlands	L, 18-25, 23-25, 25-11, 20-25	Macau, China	Haneef-Park - 19	3,800

**Final Standings:** 1. Netherlands (5-0); 2. China (4-1); 3. Italy (2-3); 4. Russia (2-3); 5. Brazil (1-4); 6. Poland (1-4); 7. Cuba; **8. USA**;

9. Japan; 10. Kazakhstan; 11. Dominican Republic; 12. Chinese Taipei  
**Preliminary Standings:** 1. Brazil (8-1); 2. Italy (7-2); 3. Russia (7-2); 4. Poland (6-3); 5. Netherlands (6-3); 6. Cuba (5-4); **7. USA (5-4)**; 8. China (5-4); 9. Japan (4-5); 10. Kazakhstan (1-8); 11. Dominican Republic (1-8); 12. Chinese Taipei (0-9)

### NORCECA Championship (Winnipeg, Canada)

9/17	Trinidad & Tobago	W, 25-9, 25-7, 25-6	Winnipeg, Canada	Busse - 13	32
9/18	Mexico	W, 25-6, 25-13, 15-10	Winnipeg, Canada	Nnamani, Busse - 11	100
9/19	Dominican Republic	W, 25-20, 25-18, 25-22	Winnipeg, Canada	Nnamani - 13	1,000
9/21	Canada	W, 25-18, 25-12, 25-23	Winnipeg, Canada	Nnamani - 18	3,000
9/22	Cuba	L, 25-22, 18-25, 25-19, 23-25, 16-18	Winnipeg, Canada	Bown - 22	2,500

**Final Standings:** 1. Cuba; **2. USA**; 3. Dominican Republic; 4. Canada; 5. Puerto Rico; 6. Mexico; 7. Costa Rica; 8. Trinidad & Tobago

### FIVB World Cup (Japan)

11/2	Peru	W, 25-23, 25-14, 25-19	Hamamatsu, Japan	Tom - 13	860
11/3	Cuba	W, 20-25, 25-21, 25-18, 20-25, 15-11	Hamamatsu, Japan	Tom, Haneef-Park - 18	3,000
11/4	Poland	W, 25-21, 12-25, 27-25, 25-17	Hamamatsu, Japan	Haneef-Park - 13	2,450
11/6	Kenya	W, 25-9, 25-20, 25-10	Sendai, Japan	Haneef-Park, Joines - 10	1,532
11/7	Brazil	W, 17-25, 16-25, 25-21, 25-23, 15-9	Sendai, Japan	Haneef-Park - 26	5,178
11/9	Dominican Republic	W, 25-16, 20-25, 25-16, 25-18	Kumamoto, Japan	Tom - 18	3,400
11/10	Thailand	W, 21-25, 25-19, 25-11, 25-13	Kumamoto, Japan	Haneef-Park - 17	3,500
11/11	Korea	W, 25-21, 25-19, 25-23	Kumamoto, Japan	Tom - 19	4,200
11/14	Serbia	L, 26-28, 25-23, 20-25, 23-25	Nagoya, Japan	Tom - 23	4,700
11/15	Japan	W, 25-17, 25-14, 25-20	Nagoya, Japan	Haneef-Park, Tom - 13	8,000
11/15	Italy	L, 20-25, 18-25, 25-27	Nagoya, Japan	Tom - 13	2,620

**Final Standings:** 1. Italy; 2. Brazil; **3. USA**; 4. Cuba; 5. Serbia; 6. Poland; 7. Japan; 8. Korea; 9. Dominican Republic; 10. Thailand; 11. Peru; 12. Kenya.

## 2007 USA Women's National Team Volleyball Final Stats

Name	Sets	Kills	Kills/ Set	Attack Errors	Total Attack	Hitting %	Service Aces	Aces/ Set	Stuff Blocks	Blocks/ Sets	Points	Points/ Set
Ah Mow-Santos	108	11	0.10	2	29	.310	14	0.13	9	0.08	34	0.31
Akinradewo	16	45	2.81	6	76	.513	5	0.31	5	0.31	55	3.44
Barboza	38	88	2.32	42	253	.182	12	0.32	6	0.16	106	2.79
Berg	39	2	0.05	1	8	.125	7	0.18	1	0.03	10	0.26
Bown	62	123	1.98	23	221	.452	12	0.19	44	0.71	179	2.89
Busse	106	137	1.29	74	367	.171	9	0.08	15	0.14	161	1.52
Davis	94	0	0.00	0	0	.000	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
Drury	10	0	0.00	0	0	.000	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
Fair	1	0	0.00	2	2	-1.000	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
Fenton Michaelis	16	0	0.00	0	0	.000	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
Glass	65	146	2.25	42	338	.308	23	0.35	24	0.37	193	2.97
Hampton	12	12	1.00	6	24	.250	3	0.25	4	0.08	16	1.33
Haneef-Park	102	331	3.25	92	621	.385	22	0.22	25	0.25	368	3.61
Hunter	11	3	0.27	0	5	.600	0	0.00	0	0.00	3	0.27
Joines	74	107	1.45	24	215	.386	14	0.19	38	0.51	159	2.15
Lee	55	0	0.00	0	0	.000	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
Nnamani	53	135	2.55	42	339	.274	10	0.19	18	0.34	163	3.08
Noble	0	0	0.00	0	0	.000	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
Olsovsky	25	23	0.92	4	43	.442	0	0.00	3	0.12	26	1.04
Scott-Arruda	103	226	2.19	46	438	.411	13	0.13	82	0.80	321	3.12
Stalls	12	27	2.25	3	39	.615	2	0.17	4	0.33	33	2.75
Sykora	21	0	0.00	0	0	.000	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
Thompson	38	2	0.05	2	11	.000	4	0.11	4	0.11	10	0.26
Tom	40	134	3.35	37	317	.306	4	0.10	26	0.65	164	4.10
Tomes	15	10	0.67	9	23	.043	5	0.33	10	0.67	25	1.67
Wilkins	50	120	2.40	54	324	.204	9	0.18	27	0.54	156	3.12
TEAM	135	1682	12.46	511	3798	.308	168	1.24	344	2.55	2192	16.24
OPP	135	1500	11.11	692	4001	.202	128	0.95	292	2.16	1970	14.59

**Dig Totals at Pan American Cup:** Not available

**Dig Totals at Pan American Games:** Scott-Arruda 16 (1.00 per set); Haneef-Park 42 (2.63); Fair 2 (2.00); Fenton Michaelis 49 (3.06); Akinradewo 13 (0.81); Tomes 0 (0.00); Barboza 40 (2.50); Noble (did not play); Hampton 1 (0.33); Thompson 35 (2.69); Hunter 5 (0.63); Busse 26 (1.63). **Team:** 229. **Opponent:** 246.

**Dig Totals at FIVB World Grand Prix:** Davis 91 (2.53 per set); Ah Mow-Santos 43 (1.19); Glass 35 (0.97); Haneef-Park 32 (0.89); Wilkins 19 (0.73); Lee 10 (0.33); Nnamani 8 (0.44); Scott-Arruda 11 (0.31); Bown 4 (0.25); Joines 5 (0.22); Thompson 1 (0.10)

**Dig Totals at NORCECA Continental Championship:** Not available

**Dig Totals at FIVB World Cup:** Davis 109 (2.66 per set); Tom 78 (1.95); Glass 35 (1.21); Berg 19 (0.70); Nnamani 12 (0.67); Haneef-Park 23 (0.61); Ah Mow-Santos 21 (0.58); Scott-Arruda 15 (0.43); Sykora 9 (0.43); Bown 12 (0.41); Joines 6 (0.32); Busse 7 (0.30).

# USA Women's National Team

## 2007 Individual and Team Highs

### Robyn Ah Mow-Santos

Points: 6, vs. Mexico (9-18)  
Kills: 2, vs. Thailand (11-10)  
Attacks: 4, vs. Thailand (11-10)  
Aces: 5, vs. Mexico (9-18)  
Blocks: 2, vs. Thailand (11-10)

### Foluke Akinradewo

Points: 14 twice, vs. PUR (7-15), vs. PER (7-19)  
Kills: 12 twice, vs. PUR (7-15), vs. PER (7-19)  
Attacks: 20, vs. Puerto Rico (7-15)  
Aces: 3, vs. Costa Rica (7-14)  
Blocks: 2, vs. Peru (7-19)

### Cynthia Barboza

Points: 15, vs. Argentina (6-21)  
Kills: 13, vs. Argentina (6-21)  
Attacks: 37, vs. Puerto Rico (7-15)  
Aces: 4, vs. Costa Rica (6-22)  
Blocks: 2, vs. Costa Rica (7-14)

### Lindsey Berg

Points: 4, vs. Mexico (9-18)  
Kills: 1 twice, vs. DOM (11-9), vs. ITA (11-16)  
Attacks: 3 times, last vs. ITA (11-16)  
Aces: 4, vs. Mexico (9-18)  
Blocks: 1 twice, vs. PER (11-2), DOM (11-9)

### Heather Bown

Points: 22, vs. Cuba (9-22)  
Kills: 14, vs. Cuba (9-22)  
Attacks: 19, vs. Cuba (9-22)  
Aces: 3, vs. Serbia (11-14)  
Blocks: 7, vs. Cuba (9-22)

### Cassie Busse

Points: 15 vs. Dominican Republic (6-23)  
Kills: 14 vs. Dominican Republic (6-23)  
Attacks: 29 vs. Argentina (6-21)  
Aces: 3 vs. Trinidad & Tobago (9-17)  
Blocks: 2, vs. Cuba (7-16)

### Nicole Davis

Points: none  
Digs: 21, vs. China (8-4)  
Kills: none  
Attempts: none  
Aces: none  
Blocks: none

### Sarah Drury

Points: none  
Digs: Not available  
Kills: none  
Attempts: none  
Aces: none  
Blocks: none

### Charnette Fair

Points: none  
Kills: none  
Attacks: 2, vs. Brazil (7-18)  
Aces: none  
Blocks: none

### Krisen Fenton Michaelis

Points: none  
Digs: 14, vs. Brazil (7-18)  
Kills: none  
Attacks: none  
Aces: none  
Blocks: none

### Kim Glass

Points: 21, vs. Russia (8-11)  
Kills: 16, vs. Russia (8-11)  
Attacks: 36, vs. Kazakhstan (8-12)  
Aces: 4, vs. Russia (8-11)  
Blocks: 4, vs. Thailand (11-10)

### Marcie Hampton

Points: 9, vs. Trinidad & Tobago (6-24)  
Kills: 6, vs. Trinidad & Tobago (6-24)  
Attacks: 10, vs. Costa Rica (6-22)  
Aces: 3, vs. Trinidad & Tobago (6-24)  
Blocks: 1, vs. Trinidad & Tobago (6-24)

### Tayyiba Haneef-Park

Points: 26, vs. Brazil (11-7)  
Kills: 24, vs. Brazil (11-7)  
Attacks: 47, vs. Brazil (11-7)  
Aces: 3, vs. Puerto Rico (7-15)  
Block: 3, vs. Puerto Rico (7-15)

### Lindsey Hunter

Points: 2, vs. Costa Rica (7-14)  
Kills: 2, vs. Costa Rica (7-14)  
Attacks: 4, vs. Costa Rica (7-14)  
Aces: none  
Blocks: none

### Jen Joines

Points: 16, vs. Cuba (9-22)  
Kills: 10, vs. Dominican Republic (6-29)  
Attacks: 21, vs. Dominican Republic (6-29)  
Aces: 4, vs. Cuba (9-22)  
Blocks: 5, vs. Dominican Republic (6-29)

### Candace Lee

Points: none  
\* Digs: 3, vs. China (8-5)  
Kills: none  
Attempts: none  
Aces: none  
Blocks: none

### Ogonna Nnamani

Points: 21, vs. Cuba (9-22)  
Kills: 16, vs. Canada (9-21)  
Attacks: 45, vs. Cuba (9-22)  
Aces: 3, vs. Trinidad & Tobago (9-17)  
Blocks: 6, vs. Cuba (9-22)

### Kimberly Noble

Points: none  
Kills: none  
Attacks: none  
Aces: none  
Blocks: none

### Katie Olsovsky

Points: 8 vs. Trinidad & Tobago (6-24)  
Kills: 7 vs. Trinidad & Tobago (6-24)  
Attacks: 9 vs. Dominican Republic (6-29)  
Aces: none  
Blocks: 1 three times, last vs. DOM (6-29)

### Danielle Scott-Arruda

Points: 23, vs. Kazakhstan (8-12)  
Kills: 15, vs. Kazakhstan (8-12)  
Attacks: 32, vs. Cuba (9-22)  
Aces: 2 vs. Cuba (11-3)  
Blocks: 8, vs. Kazakhstan (8-12)

### Tracy Stalls

Points: 14, vs. Argentina (6-21)  
Kills: 13, vs. Argentina (6-21)  
Attacks: 18, vs. Argentina (6-21)  
Aces: 2, vs. Costa Rica (6-22)  
Blocks: 3, vs. Costa Rica (6-22)

### Stacy Sykora

Points: none  
Digs: 2 twice, vs. POL (11-4), vs. KOR (11-11)  
Kills: none  
Attempts: none  
Aces: none  
Blocks: none

### Courtney Thompson

Points: 3 vs. PUR (7-15), MEX (6-25)  
Kills: 1, vs. BRA (6-28), vs. PUR (7-15)  
Attacks: 4 vs. Peru (7-19)  
Aces: 3 vs. Peru (7-19)  
Blocks: 2 vs. PUR (7-15), vs. PER (7-19)

### Logan Tom

Points: 23 vs. Serbia (11-14)  
Kills: 21 vs. Serbia (11-14)  
Attacks: 42 vs. Serbia (11-14)  
Aces: 1 four times, last vs. SER (11-14)  
Blocks: 4 twice, vs. CUB (11-3), vs. ITA (11-16)

### Laura Tomes

Points: 7, twice vs. TT (6-24), DOM (6-29)  
Kills: 4, vs. Trinidad & Tobago (6-24)  
Attacks: 7, vs. Dominican Republic (6-29)  
Aces: 3, vs. Dominican Republic (6-29)  
Blocks: 3, twice vs. MEX (6-25), DOM (6-29)

### Katie Wilkins

Points: 24, vs. Dominican Republic (6-23)  
Kills: 17 twice, vs. DOM (6-23), vs. DOM (6-29)  
Attacks: 41, vs. Dominican Republic (6-23)  
Aces: 2 twice, vs. CRC (6-22), vs. NED (8-19)  
Blocks: 7, vs. Dominican Republic (6-23)

### USA Team

Points: 82, vs. Cuba (9-22)  
Kills: 68, vs. Kazakhstan (8-12)  
Attacks: 143, vs. Brazil (11-7)  
Aces: 14, vs. Mexico (9-18)  
Blocks: 20, vs. Thailand (11-10)

### Opponents

Points: 94, Cuba (9-22)  
Kills: 75, Cuba (9-22)  
Attacks: 151, Cuba (9-22)  
Aces: 9, China (8-5)  
Blocks: 17, Cuba (8-18)

\* Digs not available from Pan American Cup



# All-Time USA Women's Indoor Volleyball Olympians

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## **1964 (Tokyo)**

### **5th Place**

Patti Bright  
Jean Gaertner  
Lou Galloway  
Barbara Harwerth  
Linda Murphy  
Gail O'Rourke  
Nancy Owen  
Mary Jo Pepler  
Mary Perry  
Sharon Peterson  
Verneda Thomas  
Jane Ward

## **1968 (Mexico City)**

### **8th Place**

Patti Bright  
Kathryn Heck  
Fanny Hopeau  
Ninja Jorgensen  
Laurie Lewis  
Miki McFadden  
Marilyn McCreavy  
Nancy Owen  
Barbara Perry  
Mary Perry  
Sharon Peterson  
Jane Ward

## **1980 (Moscow)**

### **Did Not Compete (USA Boycott)**

Janet Baier  
Carolyn Becker  
Rita Crockett  
Patty Dowdell  
Laurie Flachmeier  
Debbie Green  
Flo Hyman  
Laurel Brassey  
Debbie Landreth  
Diane McCormick  
Terry Place  
Sue Woodstra

## **1984 (Los Angeles)**

### **Silver Medal**

Jeanne Beauprey  
Carolyn Becker  
Linda Chisholm  
Rita Crockett  
Laurie Flachmeier  
Debbie Green  
Flo Hyman  
Rose Magers  
Kim Ruddins  
Julie Vollertsen  
Paula Weishoff  
Sue Woodstra

## **1988 (Seoul)**

### **7th Place**

Deitre Collins  
Caren Kemner  
Laurel Kessel  
Tammy Liley  
Liz Masakayan  
Jayne McHugh  
Melissa McLinden  
Kim Oden  
Keba Phipps  
Kim Ruddins  
Angela Rock  
Liane Sato

## **1992 (Barcelona)**

### **Bronze Medal**

Janet Cobbs  
Tara Cross-Battle  
Lori Endicott  
Caren Kemner  
Ruth Lawanson  
Tammy Liley  
Elaina Oden  
Kim Oden  
Liane Sato  
Paula Weishoff  
Tee Williams  
Yoko Zetterlund

## **1996 (Atlanta)**

### **7th Place**

Tara Cross-Battle  
Lori Endicott  
Caren Kemner  
Kristin Klein  
Tammy Liley  
Bev Oden  
Elaina Oden  
Danielle Scott  
Paula Weishoff  
Tee Williams  
Elaine Youngs  
Yoko Zetterlund

## **2000 (Sydney)**

### **4th Place**

Robyn Ah Mow  
Heather Bown  
Tara Cross-Battle  
Mickisha Hurley  
Sarah Noriega  
Demetria Sance  
Danielle Scott  
Stacy Sykora  
Charlene Tagaloa  
Logan Tom  
Kerri Walsh  
Allison Weston

## **2004 (Athens)**

### **5th Place**

Robyn Ah Mow-Santos  
Elisabeth Bachman  
Lindsey Berg  
Heather Bown  
Tara Cross-Battle  
Tayyiba Haneef  
Nancy Metcalf  
Ogonna Nnamani  
Keba Phipps  
Danielle Scott  
Stacy Sykora  
Logan Tom

# INTERNATIONAL VOLLEYBALL FACT SHEET

**Introduction:** Volleyball has major international competitions every year and, at its highest level, is a physically demanding sport played by some of the world's most elite athletes. Of course, volleyball is also a popular recreational activity enjoyed by more than 38 million persons in the United States (more than any team sport but basketball) and more than 800 million persons globally, making it the world's most popular participant sport. This fact sheet is designed to provide more understanding about international volleyball and its major competitions, including the Olympic Games.

**International Governing Body:** The international governing body for volleyball is the Federation Internationale de Volleyball (FIVB), headquartered in Lausanne, Switzerland. The FIVB is the world's largest sports federation, with more than 200 member nations. Under the direction of its president, Dr. Ruben Acosta of Mexico, the FIVB oversees the administration of volleyball throughout the world and is responsible for producing several major events, including the Olympic Games, World Championships, World Cup, World League and World Grand Prix.

**National Governing Body:** The national governing body (NGB) for volleyball in the United States is USA Volleyball, formerly known as the United States Volleyball Association. Founded in 1928, USA Volleyball is responsible for the administration of all forms of volleyball in the United States, including producing the annual USA Open Volleyball Championships, Junior Olympic Championships and the USA Outdoor National Championships. As mandated by the 1978 Amateur Sports Act, USA Volleyball is responsible to the U.S. Olympic Committee (USOC) and the FIVB for training and nominating the teams which represent the United States in the Olympic Games and other important volleyball competitions worldwide.

**Major Competitions:** The four major events on the international volleyball calendar are the Olympic Games (men and women, indoor and beach), World Championships (men and women, indoor and beach), World Cup (men and women, indoor), World League (men, indoor) and World Grand Prix (women, indoor). All events are conducted quadrennially, with the exceptions of the annual World League/Grand Prix and the biennial Beach World Championships.

**World Rankings:** Following the decision of the FIVB Board of Administration, a new system of point attribution based on a new scale has been implemented for the FIVB World Ranking of Volleyball National Teams. The following competitions are now included:

- Senior World Championships included for four years - 25 percent reduction each year. Points are also granted for the qualification matches, to the best non-qualified teams.
- Olympic Games included for four years - 25 percent reduction each year. Points are also granted for the qualification matches, to the best non-qualified teams.

- World Cup included for two years - 50 percent reduction the second year.
- Senior Continental Championships included for two years - 50 percent reduction the second year; points are also granted for the qualification matches to the best non-qualified teams.
- Men's World League / Women's World Grand Prix included for one year.
- Junior World Championships included for two years - 50 percent reduction the second year.
- Junior Continental Championships included for two years - 50 percent reduction the second year.

Following are the top 20 teams in the FIVB World Rankings entering the 2008 calendar year:

## Women (Points)

1. Brazil (235)
2. Italy (233.75)
3. Cuba (172.5)
4. **USA (157.25)**
5. Russia (154.5)
6. China (142.5)
7. Serbia (136)
8. Japan (120.25)
9. Poland (101.5)
10. Netherlands (98)
11. Korea (74.5)
12. Kenya (49.75)
13. Peru (47.5)
14. Dominican Republic (47)
15. Germany (38.5)
16. Kazakhstan (34.75)
17. Chinese Taipei (33.75)
18. Thailand (33)
19. Puerto Rico (32.5)
20. Egypt (32.25)

## Men (Points)

1. Brazil (260)
2. Russia (199.5)
3. USA (166.5)
4. Bulgaria (159.5)
5. **Poland (99.8)**
- 6T. Argentina (89.5)
- 6T. Spain (89.5)
- 8T. Serbia (88.8)
- 8T. Puerto Rico (88.8)
10. Italy (82)
11. Australia (69.8)
12. Japan (67)
13. France (58.8)
14. Egypt (51.3)
15. Tunisia (50.3)
16. Korea (46)
17. Cuba (45.8)
18. Canada (45.3)
19. Germany (44.8)
20. Venezuela (38.5)

**Olympic Games:** Volleyball made its debut in the 1964 Olympics in Tokyo. Twelve teams in both the men's and women's draw earn the right to compete:

**Past Olympic Champions (Men)**

1964: Soviet Union (USA, ninth)  
1968: Soviet Union (USA, seventh)  
1972: Japan, (USA, DNQ)  
1976: Poland (USA, DNQ)  
1980: Soviet Union (USA, DNQ)  
1984: USA  
1988: USA  
1992: Brazil (USA, third)  
1996: Netherlands (USA, ninth)  
2000: Yugoslavia (USA, 11th)  
2004: Brazil (USA, fourth)

**Past Olympic Champions (Women)**

1964: Japan (USA, fifth)  
1968: Soviet Union (USA, eighth)  
1972: Soviet Union (USA, DNQ)  
1976: Japan (USA, DNQ)  
1980: Soviet Union (USA, DNP)  
1984: China (USA, second)  
1988: Soviet Union (USA, seventh)  
1992: Cuba (USA, third)  
1996: Cuba (USA, seventh)  
2000: Cuba (USA, fourth)  
2004: China (USA, fifth)

**World Championships:** The World Championships are held every four years in the second year after the Olympics. The site, usually separate for the men's and women's competitions, is determined by the FIVB based on bids received from interested cities. The 24 berths for the men and women are gained in the following manner (2006 information is provided in parenthesis where available):

- Host country
- Defending World Champions
- FIVB determined the appropriate number of qualification spots for each continent/zone based on performance at the 2002 World Championships and the number of teams registered for the 2006 World Championships. Each continent/zone played a World Championships Qualification Tournament in early 2002.

**Past World Champions (Men)**

1949: Soviet Union (USA, DNP)  
1952: Soviet Union (USA, DNP)  
1956: Czechoslovakia (USA, sixth)  
1960: Soviet Union (USA, seventh)  
1962: Soviet Union (USA, DNP)  
1966: Czechoslovakia (USA, 11<sup>th</sup>)  
1970: East Germany (USA, 18<sup>th</sup>)  
1974: Not held  
1978: Soviet Union (USA, 19<sup>th</sup>)  
1982: Soviet Union (USA, 13<sup>th</sup>)  
1986: USA  
1990: Italy (USA, 13<sup>th</sup>)  
1994: Italy (USA, third)  
1998: Italy (USA, ninth)

2002: Brazil (USA, ninth)  
2006: Brazil (USA, 10th)

**Past World Champions (Women)**

1952: Soviet Union (USA, DNP)  
1956: Soviet Union (USA, ninth)  
1960: Soviet Union (USA, sixth)  
1962: Japan (USA, DNP)  
1966: Japan (USA, second)  
1970: Soviet Union (USA, 11<sup>th</sup>)  
1974: Japan (USA, 12<sup>th</sup>)  
1978: Cuba (USA, fifth)  
1982: China (USA, third)  
1986: China (USA, 10<sup>th</sup>)  
1990: Soviet Union (USA, third)  
1994: Cuba (USA, sixth)  
1998: Cuba (USA, 13<sup>th</sup>)  
2002: Italy (USA, second)  
2006: Russia (USA, ninth)

**World Cup:** The World Cup is held every four years, in the year prior to the Olympic Games. Though originally held at various sites, it has been hosted by Japan since 1977. Prior to 1991, the World Cup took place in the year immediately following the Olympics. The 12 berths in the World Cup for men and women are gained in the following manner:

- Host country (Japan- Men and Women)
- Defending World Cup champion
- Winners of the five zone championships
- The highest-placed team (of each zone) not qualified for the Olympic Games in accordance with the ranking of the zone championships.

**Past World Cup Champions (Men)**

1965: Soviet Union (USA, DNP)  
1969: East Germany (USA, DNP)  
1973: Soviet Union (USA, seventh)  
1977: Soviet Union (USA, 10<sup>th</sup>)  
1981: Soviet Union (USA, DNQ)  
1985: USA  
1989: Cuba (USA, fourth)  
1991: Soviet Union (USA, third)  
1995: Italy (USA, fourth)  
1999: Russia (USA, fourth)  
2003: Brazil (USA, fourth)  
2007: Brazil (USA, fourth)

**Past World Cup Champions (Women)**

1973: Soviet Union (USA, sixth)  
1977: Japan (USA, seventh)  
1981: China (USA, fourth)  
1985: China (USA, DNQ)  
1989: Cuba (USA, DNQ)  
1991: Cuba (USA, fourth)  
1995: Cuba (USA, seventh)  
1999: Cuba (USA, ninth)  
2003: China (USA, third)  
2007: Italy (USA, third)

**Zone Championships:** The volleyball world is divided into five international zones. The United States is in the NORCECA (North America Central America Caribbean) Zone, with championships held every other year at various sites. The other zones are Europe, Asia, Africa and South America. The frequency of zone championships competition varies in each of the five sections. Any nation in a particular zone may participate in its zone championships whenever such a competition is conducted.

**Past NORCECA Champions (Men)**

1969: Cuba (USA, third)  
 1971: Cuba (USA, second)  
 1973: USA  
 1975: Cuba (USA, third)  
 1977: Cuba (USA, fifth)  
 1979: Cuba (USA, fifth)  
 1981: Cuba (USA, second)  
 1983: USA  
 1985: USA  
 1987: Cuba (USA, second)  
 1989: Cuba (USA, third)  
 1991: Cuba (USA, second)  
 1993: Cuba (USA, second)  
 1995: Cuba (USA, second)  
 1997: Cuba (USA, second)  
 1999: USA  
 2001: Cuba (USA, second)  
 2003: USA  
 2005: USA  
 2007: USA

**Past NORCECA Champions (Women)**

1969: Mexico (USA, sixth)  
 1971: Mexico (USA, third)  
 1973: Cuba (USA, third)  
 1975: Cuba (USA, second)  
 1977: Cuba (USA, third)  
 1979: Cuba (USA, second)  
 1981: USA  
 1983: USA  
 1985: Cuba (USA, second)  
 1987: Cuba (USA, second)  
 1989: Cuba (USA, third)  
 1991: Cuba (USA, second)  
 1993: Cuba (USA, second)  
 1995: Cuba (USA, second)  
 1997: Cuba (USA, second)  
 1999: Cuba (USA, second)  
 2001: USA  
 2003: USA  
 2005: USA  
 2007: Cuba (USA, second)

**World League and World Grand Prix:** The World League features the top 12 men’s volleyball teams in the world in competition for a total purse that has grown to \$15 million since the inaugural season in 1990. Teams are divided into three, four-team pools and each country playing the other teams in their pool four times (twice at home, twice on the road). The winner and runner-up in each pool advance to a seeded playoff round. The regular season is usually played in May and June with playoffs in early July.

The World Grand Prix is the women’s counterpart to the World League, and offers a total purse of \$2 million to its 12-team field. Teams play in different four-team pools each weekend, at round-robin tournaments hosted by cities throughout Asia. The three teams with the best records join the host country for the Grand Prix Finals. The regular season is played in August and early-September with playoffs in mid-September.

**World League Champions**

1990: Italy (USA, fourth in pool)  
 1991: Italy (USA, third in pool)  
 1992: Italy (USA, first in pool, third overall)  
 1993: Brazil (USA, fifth in pool)  
 1994: Italy (USA, fourth in pool)  
 1995: Italy (USA, fourth in pool)  
 1996: Netherlands (USA, DNP)  
 1997: Italy (USA, DNP)  
 1998: Cuba (USA, DNP)  
 1999: Italy (USA, DNP)  
 2000: Italy (USA, first in pool, sixth overall)  
 2001: Brazil (USA, third in pool, tied-ninth overall)  
 2002: Russia (USA, DNP)  
 2003: Brazil (USA, DNP)  
 2004: Brazil (USA, DNP)  
 2005: Brazil (USA, DNP)  
 2006: Brazil (USA, third in pool)  
 2007: Brazil (USA, third in finals)

**World Grand Prix Champions**

1993: Cuba (USA, seventh regular season)  
 1994: Brazil (USA, fifth regular season)  
 1995: USA  
 1996: Brazil (USA, fifth)  
 1997: Russia (USA, eighth)  
 1998: Brazil (USA, eighth)  
 1999: Russia (USA, DNP)  
 2000: Cuba (USA, sixth)  
 2001: USA  
 2002: Russia (USA, sixth)  
 2003: China (USA, third)  
 2004: Brazil (USA, third)  
 2005: Brazil (USA, eighth)  
 2006: Brazil (USA, seventh)  
 2007: Netherlands (USA, eighth final, seventh preliminary)