

2008 FLORIDA STATE VOLLEYBALL

2008 OUTLOOK



2008 SEASON OUTLOOK



QUICK FACTS

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Location Tallahassee, Fla.
 Enrollment 41,065
 Founded 1851
 Symbol Seminole
 Colors Garnet & Gold
 President Dr. T.K. Wetherell
 Athletics Director Randy Spetman
 Assistant AD (Volleyball) Brandi Stuart

MEDIA RELATIONS

Sports Information Director Tina Dechausay
 Assistant SID (Volleyball) Katy Baker
 Email kbaker@fsu.edu
 Office 850.645.7683
 Cell 850.694.3317
 Fax 850.644.3820
 Website www.seminoles.com
 Mailing Address PO Box 2195
 Tallahassee, Fla. 32316
 Shipping Address 403 Stadium Drive
 Tallahassee, Fla. 32306

COACHING STAFF

Head Coach Chris Poole (Arkansas Tech '84)
 Career Record 550-230/21 years
 FSU Record First Season
 Assistant Coaches Holly Watts (Texas '94)
 Gokhan Yilmaz (Istanbul '02)
 Volleyball Secretary Jill Hoomes
 Volleyball Office 850.644.3003
 Home Court/Capacity Lucy McDaniel Court
 at Tully Gymnasium (1,162)

TEAM INFORMATION

All-time Record (1972-07) 845-432 (.662)
 All-time ACC Record (1991-07) 137-131 (.511)
 2007 Record 16-14
 2007 ACC Record 13-9 (5th)
 Starters R/L 4/1 +libero
 Starters Taking Probable Redshirt in 2008 1
 Letterwinners R/L 9/6
 Newcomers 5

2008 SEMINOLES

1 Rachael Morgan OH ...6-2 ... Fr. Tauranga, New Zealand Otumoetai College
 2 Drew Dudley DS ...5-9 ... Fr. Mason, Mich. Okemos
 3 Lauren Richardson ... OH ...6-0 ... So. Ocala, Fla. St. John's Lutheran
 4 Taylor Wilson DS ...5-7 ... So. Clearwater, Fla. Countryside
 5 Brianna Barry MB ...6-3 ... Jr. Winter Springs, Fla. Winter Springs
 6 Stephanie Neville OH ...6-3 ... So. ... Cambridge, Ontario Jacob Hespeler Secondary
 7 Ashlee Moon L/DS ...5-7 ... Sr. Murrieta, Calif. Orange Coast College
 8 Nikki Baker S ...5-9 ... Jr. Findlay, Ohio Findlay
 9 Alliya Drzewiecki OH ...6-2 ... Fr. Toledo, Ohio Saint Ursula Academy
 10 Jenna Romanelli DS ...5-4 ... So. Lighthouse Point, Fla. Cardinal Gibbons
 11 Courtney Zuber DS ...5-7 ... Fr. Tallahassee, Fla. Leon
 12 Jordana Price MB ...6-1 ... So. Mountain Home, Idaho Southern Idaho
 13 Mira Djuric OH ...6-2 ... Sr. Belgrade, Serbia Oregon
 15 Abby Niekamp MB ...6-1 ... Fr. Celina, Ohio Marion Local
 23 Lauren Young MB ...6-2 ... Jr. Ben Wheeler, Texas Van

ROSTER INFORMATION

RETURNING PLAYERS

Nikki Baker Jr. 5-7 S
 Brianna Barry Jr. 6-3 MB
 Mira Djuric Sr. 6-2 OH
 Ashlee Moon Sr. 5-7 DS/L
 Stephanie Neville So. 6-2 OH
 Jordana Price Jr. 6-1 MB
 Lauren Richardson So. 6-1 OH
 Jenna Romanelli So. 5-4 DS
 Taylor Wilson So. 5-7 DS
 Lauren Young Jr. 6-2 MB

INCOMING PLAYERS

Alliya Drzewiecki Fr. 6-2 OH
 Drew Dudley Fr. 5-9 DS
 Rachael Morgan Fr. 6-2 OH
 Abby Niekamp Fr. 6-1 MB
 Courtney Zuber Fr. 5-7 DS



2008 ACC PRESEASON POLL

Place	Team	Points	2007 Record
1.	Clemson (11)	143	29-4
2.	Georgia Tech (1)	130	22-10
3.	Duke	119	25-7
4.	North Carolina	102	15-16
5.	Florida State	84	16-14
	Virginia	84	18-13
7.	Maryland	68	18-13
8.	Virginia Tech	66	14-18
9.	Miami	53	14-17
10.	Wake Forest	46	8-23
11.	Boston College	28	14-18
12.	NC State	13	3-29

2008 PRESEASON

ALL-ACC TEAM

Player School
 Danielle Hepburn Clemson
 Kelsey Murphy Clemson
 Jeannette Abbott Clemson
 Didem Ege Clemson
 Rachael Moss Duke
 Jourdon Normon Duke
Mira Djuric **Florida State**
Brianna Barry **Florida State**
 Talisa Kellogg Georgia Tech
 Callie Miller Georgia Tech
 Mary Beth Brown Maryland
 Genny Mayhew Miami
 Christine Vaughn North Carolina
 Brianna Eskola North Carolina
 Shannon Davis Virginia
 Lauren Dickson Virginia
 Felicia Willoughby Virginia Tech
 Natalie Mullikin Wake Forest



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THE 2008 FLORIDA STATE VOLLEYBALL SEASON BRINGS IN A NEW FACE AT THE HELM OF THE PROGRAM, HEAD COACH CHRIS POOLE. POOLE JOINS THE SEMINOLE STAFF AFTER 14 VERY SUCCESSFUL SEASONS LEADING THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS LADY'BACKS TO 11 SEC WESTERN DIVISION TITLES AND NINE NCAA TOURNAMENT APPEARANCES.

In 21 years of coaching, Poole has garnered a 550-230 record and received seven conference Coach of the Year awards.

"It's a wonderful feeling," Poole said. "I'm so excited to become a Seminole. I have always loved building programs and at three different universities I have been able to do that. At Florida State, I see a program that already has a good foundation and has the support of the new administration. I think the community is really excited about seeing the volleyball program climb again and for me, that's just a great situation to go into."

THE SCHEDULE...

The Seminoles start the season on August 29 as they host the FSU Invitational and welcome cross-town rival Florida A&M along with Bowling Green and Stetson. This is the first time since the 2002 season that FSU and FAMU will face-off on the court. The Rattlers are a strong competitor in the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference and took the league title in 2007. The Noles dominate the series with FAMU 19-0.

FSU will also host the Seminole Tri-Tournament on September 5-7 with North Florida and South Dakota State before traveling to Dayton, Ohio, for Wright State's Raider Challenge. The Garnet and Gold will take on Wright State and Niagara for the first time in program history and will look to maintain its flawless 4-0 record against Morehead State on September 12-13.

This year will also be a time for some rematches against a few top-ranked ACC opponents, Duke and Clemson, as well as in-state rivals the Florida Gators who travel to Seminole territory on September 8.

MATCHES TO LOOKOUT FOR:

- August 29Florida A&M in Tully Gym
- September 8Florida Gators in Tallahassee, Fla.
- September 26Duke Blue Devils in Durham, N.C.
- November 2Duke Blue Devils in Tallahassee, Fla.



JUNIOR BRIANNA BARRY ON THE SCHEDULE

"I think our schedule this year is more challenging than last season because we're on the road for most of September and the first weekend in October. It's going to be a little intense. But I'm excited for Long Beach State to come here this year and I'm obviously excited to play Florida in Tully Gym."

SENIOR ASHLEE MOON ON THE SPRING SEASON

"Our spring was amazing. As a team we grew so much on and off the court. We worked through a lot of mental bumps that held us up last fall, so that's our biggest success beyond winning the FSU and College of Charleston tournaments. I feel along with that, we've grown so much over the summer and will carry that into this season."

THE 2008 FRESHMAN CLASS...

The 2008 season brings in five newcomers: Rachael Morgan, Drew Dudley, Alliya Drzewiecki, Courtney Zuber and Abby Niekamp.

Leading the new class this year will be Alliya Drzewiecki and Rachael Morgan in the outside hitter position and Abby Niekamp at middle blocker. Drzewiecki (Toledo, Ohio) was a member of the USA Junior National Team for three years and set the Ohio state record for career kills with 997 in 2007.

Morgan, a native of Tauranga, New Zealand, was the 2007 Australian Nationals MVP and placed ninth at the World Beach Volleyball Competition in Poland that same year. Niekamp, a 6'1" middle blocker hailing from Celina, Ohio, set school records in six categories and was the Player of the Year for her district in 2007.



Drew Dudley

2008 SEASON OUTLOOK

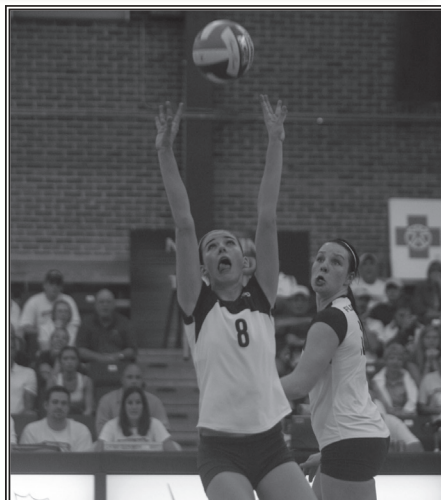


2008 OUTLOOK

BARRY ON THE NEWCOMERS

"I think a big key for the new class is Abby being here for the spring. I think she's going to be a good leader for the freshman class because she's gotten her feet wet and has the experience from playing college ball with us during the spring season.

Alliya, Rachel and Courtney are also very strong additions. We've seen them play a few times over the summer so I'm really excited to see how they're going to grow as collegiate volleyball players."



Nikki Baker

SETTERS...

- Junior Nikki Baker is once again the lone veteran at the setter position in 2008
- Baker started 19 matches as a sophomore and averaged 11.19 assists per game

With the departure of sophomore Lauren Rosenthal, junior Nikki Baker will control the setter position in 2008. Baker showed improvement last season as she averaged 11.19 assists per game and contributed 28 kills for the Seminoles.

MOON ON BAKER

"Baker loves being "it." She's going to love being the only setter on the team. Of course we worry about her staying healthy this season, but from a mental standpoint she is going to be just fine. She loves knowing that she has to perform, but at the same time she knows she has a big task in front of her and that she may have an off day. If that happens we all know we must come together as a team to work through it."

BARRY ON BAKER

"Throughout the spring and summer, Nikki has matured a lot which is good for us. She really has that capacity to lead us this year, so I'm excited to see how we can respond to what Nikki does for us on the court and how we can grow with her."

MIDDLE BLOCKERS...

- The middle blockers look to be a powerhouse position in 2008
- Brianna Barry will lead the middles in her junior season
- Barry topped the team in 2007 with 97 total blocks
- Newcomer Abby Niekamp joins veterans Jordana Price and Lauren Young in the front row in 2008

All four Seminoles in the middle blocker position have experience playing at the collegiate level. Junior Brianna Barry was a starter in both her freshman and sophomore years and will lead the position this year. Both Lauren Young and Jordana Price saw action on the court last season and newcomer Abby Niekamp got her feet wet playing in the spring season.

BARRY ON LEADING HER POSITION

"As middles, we've improved a lot from spring into summer and now coming into the fall. I feel that I am taking on the leader role with the middle blockers because I've been here the longest. Lauren Young didn't play much her freshman year because of injury, Jordana came in last year and Abby is new, so I'm excited to take on the responsibility of leading them."

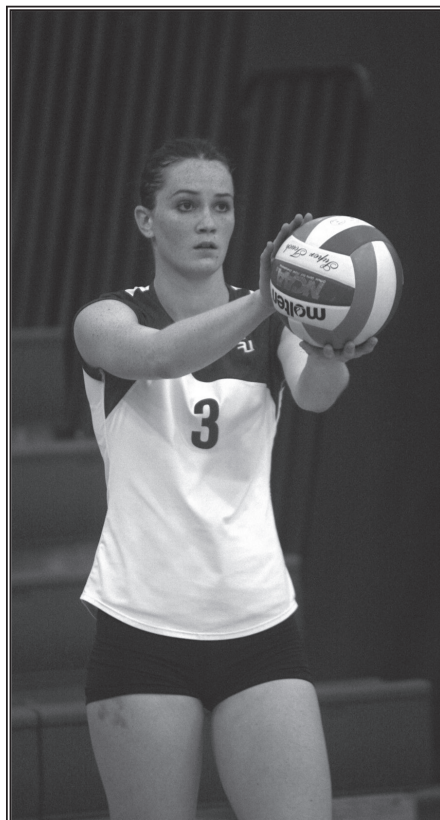


Brianna Barry



2008 SEASON OUTLOOK

2008 OUTLOOK



Lauren Richardson

MOON ON THE MIDDLE BLOCKERS

"I'm really excited to see Jordana, who is amazing off of one foot, on the right side since we lost Mira to a redshirt. I look forward to seeing her attack from back there and then Lauren Young is also a great blocker, so I'm eager to play defense behind them."

OUTSIDE HITTERS...

- The outside hitter position is short Mira Djuric this season due to a probable redshirt
- A very young position for FSU with two sophomores and two freshmen in the front row
- Look for sophomore Lauren Richardson to take on the leadership role in 2008

With top hitter Makini Thompson graduated and top returner Mira Djuric taking a medical redhirt in 2008, the outside hitter position is full of fresh faces with two sophomores (Lauren Richardson and Stephanie Neville) who saw action on the court last year and two top freshmen recruits, Alliya Drzewiecki and Rachael Morgan.

MOON ON THE OUTSIDE HITTERS

"I believe Lauren Richardson will take on a leadership role not only in the outside hitter position, but for the whole team both on and off the court. She's got great ball control all the way around and she stepped up and played all around in the spring and did a great job. Stephanie Neville also has a year of experience and if there is a hitter that can get around her, then they must be pretty amazing."

BARRY ON THE OUTSIDE HITTERS

"With Stephanie and Lauren having experience, I think they're going to be the two to look out for this season. With the addition of Rachael and Alliya, both very tall girls, we're going to have a pretty tall front row and I'm excited to get to work with the outsides and the right sides to set up bigger blocks."

DEFENSIVE SPECIALISTS...

- Senior Ashlee Moon will lead the defensive specialists this season
- Sophomores Jenna Romanelli and Taylor Wilson and freshman Drew Dudley all bring collegiate playing experience

MOON ON LEADING IN THE DS POSITION...

"I don't have a problem leading my position or the team. Whatever is needed of me, I'm going to do. I'm just looking forward to the opportunity. It's good to have Taylor, Jenna and Drew in the defensive specialist position with some experience. I think we definitely improved a lot on our ball control in the spring and I hope that carries over into the fall and we are able to see results from it."

BARRY ON THE DEFENSIVE SPECIALISTS

"I think Ashley is the one that lights the fire under us. She is going to be the one to help us through the matches, much like Summer [Weissing] was last year. I think the DS position is going to be a giant chunk of our team this year."



Ashlee Moon

2008 SEASON OUTLOOK



2008 TEAM ROSTER

NUMERICAL

1	Rachael Morgan	OH	6-2	Fr.	Tauranga, New Zealand Otumoetai College
2	Drew Dudley	DS	5-9	Fr.	Mason, Mich. Okemos
3	Lauren Richardson	OH	6-0	So.	Ocala, Fla. St. John's Lutheran
4	Taylor Wilson	DS	5-7	So.	Clearwater, Fla. Countryside
5	Brianna Barry	MB	6-3	Jr.	Winter Springs, Fla. Winter Springs
6	Stephanie Neville	OH	6-3	So.	Cambridge, Ontario Jacob Hespeler Secondary
7	Ashlee Moon	L/DS	5-7	Sr.	Murrieta, Calif. Orange Coast College
8	Nikki Baker	S	5-9	Jr.	Findlay, Ohio Findlay
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13	Mira Djuric	OH	6-2	Sr.	Belgrade, Serbia Oregon
15	Abby Niekamp	MB	6-1	Fr.	Celina, Ohio Marion Local
23	Lauren Young	MB	6-2	Jr.	Ben Wheeler, Texas Van

ALPHABETICAL

8	Nikki Baker	S	5-9	Jr.	Findlay, Ohio Findlay
5	Brianna Barry	MB	6-3	Jr.	Winter Springs, Fla. Winter Springs
13	Mira Djuric	OH	6-2	Sr.	Belgrade, Serbia Oregon
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11	Courtney Zuber	DS	5-7	Fr.	Tallahassee, Fla. Leon

COACHES & SUPPORT STAFF

Head Coach:	Chris Poole
Associate Head Coach:	Holly Watts
Assistant Coach:	Gokhan Yilmaz
Manager:	Brandon Blahnik
Athletic Trainer:	Mallory Greathouse

PRONUNCIATIONS

Brianna	Brie-AN-ah
Dudley	Dud-Lee
Romanelli	Ro-Ma-Nelli
Djuric	Ju-rich
Neville	Neh-vil
Zuber	Zoo-bur
Drzewiecki	Driz-wick-E
Niekamp	Knee-camp
Gokhan	Go-Can
Yilmaz	Yeel-Maz



2008 SEASON OUTLOOK

ROSTER BREAKDOWN

BY HOMETOWN:

FLORIDA (5)

Brianna Barry(Winter Springs/Winter Springs)
 Lauren Richardson(Ocala/St. John's Lutheran)
 Jenna Romanelli (Lighthouse Point/Cardinal Gibbons)
 Taylor Wilson(Clearwater/Countryside)
 Courtney Zuber (Tallahassee/Leon)

OHIO (3)

Nikki Baker(Findlay/Findlay)
 Alliya Drzewiecki(Toledo/Saint Ursula Academy)
 Abby Niekamp(Celina/Marion Local)

CALIFORNIA (1)

Ashlee Moon(Murrieta/Murrieta Valley)

IDAHO (1)

Jordana Price (Mountain Home/Mountain Home)

MICHIGAN (1)

Drew Dudley(Mason/Okemos)

TEXAS (1)

Lauren Young(Ben Wheeler/Van)

CANADA (1)

Stephanie Neville(Cambridge, Ontario/Jacob Hespeler Secondary)

NEW ZEALAND (1)

Rachael Morgan (Tauranga, New Zealand/Otumoetai College)

SERBIA (1)

Mira Djuric (Belgrade, Serbia/Oregon)



BY CLASS:

SENIORS (2)

Mira Djuric (RS)
 Ashlee Moon

JUNIORS (4)

Nikki Baker
 Brianna Barry
 Jordana Price
 Lauren Young

SOPHOMORES (5)

Stephanie Neville
 Lauren Richardson
 Jenna Romanelli
 Lauren Rosenthal
 Taylor Wilson

FRESHMEN (5)

Alliya Drzewiecki
 Drew Dudley
 Rachael Morgan
 Abby Niekamp
 Courtney Zuber

BY POSITION:

OUTSIDE HITTER (5)

Mira Djuric
 Alliya Drzewiecki
 Rachael Morgan
 Stephanie Neville
 Lauren Richardson

DEFENSIVE SPECIALIST/ LIBERO (5)

Drew Dudley
 Ashlee Moon
 Jenna Romanelli
 Taylor Wilson
 Courtney Zuber

MIDDLE BLOCKER (4)

Brianna Barry
 Abby Niekamp
 Jordana Price
 Lauren Young

SETTER (1)

Nikki Baker

BY HEIGHT:

6-3 (2)

Brianna Barry
 Stephanie Neville

6-2 (4)

Mira Djuric
 Alliya Drzewiecki
 Rachael Morgan
 Lauren Young

6-1 (2)

Abby Niekamp
 Jordana Price

6-0 (1)

Lauren Richardson

5-9 (2)

Nikki Baker
 Drew Dudley

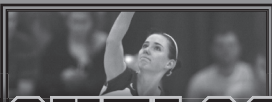
5-7 (3)

Ashlee Moon
 Taylor Wilson
 Courtney Zuber

5-4 (1)

Jenna Romanelli

2008 SEASON OUTLOOK



2008 SCHEDULE

AUGUST

FLORIDA STATE INVITATIONAL (Aug. 29-30)			
29.....	VS. FLORIDA A&M	TALLAHASSEE, FLA.....	6:00 P.M.
30	VS. BOWLING GREEN	TALLAHASSEE, FLA.....	1:00 P.M.
	VS. STETSON	TALLAHASSEE, FLA.....	7:00 P.M.

SEPTEMBER

4	VS. LONG BEACH STATE	TALLAHASSEE, FLA.....	7:00 P.M.
SEMINOLE TRI-TOURNAMENT (Sept. 5-7)			
5.....	VS. NORTH FLORIDA.....	TALLAHASSEE, FLA.....	7:00 P.M.
7.....	VS. SOUTH DAKOTA STATE	TALLAHASSEE, FLA.....	12:00 P.M.
8.....	VS. FLORIDA	TALLAHASSEE, FLA.....	8:00 P.M.

RAIDER CHALLENGE RAIDER CHALLENGE (Sept. 12-13)

12.....	vs. Niagara	Dayton, Ohio.....	5:00 p.m.
13.....	vs. Morehead State	Dayton, Ohio.....	2:00 p.m.
	vs. Wright State	Dayton, Ohio.....	7:00 p.m.
19.....	@ Miami	Coral Gables, Fla.....	7:00 p.m.
25.....	@ Wake Forest	Winston-Salem, NC.....	7:00 p.m.
26.....	@ Duke	Durham, NC.....	7:00 p.m.

OCTOBER

3.....	@ Georgia Tech	Atlanta, Ga.....	7:00 p.m.
4.....	@ Clemson.....	Clemson, SC.....	6:00 p.m.
10.....	VS. MARYLAND.....	TALLAHASSEE, FLA.....	7:00 P.M.
12.....	VS. BOSTON COLLEGE	TALLAHASSEE, FLA.....	1:00 P.M.
17.....	VS. NORTH CAROLINA	TALLAHASSEE, FLA.....	7:00 P.M.
18.....	VS. NC STATE	TALLAHASSEE, FLA.....	7:00 P.M.
24.....	@ Virginia Tech	Blacksburg, Va.....	7:00 p.m.
25.....	@ Virginia	Charlottesville, Va.....	7:00 p.m.
31.....	VS. WAKE FOREST	TALLAHASSEE, FLA.....	7:00 P.M.

NOVEMBER

2.....	VS. DUKE.....	TALLAHASSEE, FLA.....	1:00 P.M.
7.....	@ Boston College	Chestnut Hill, Mass.....	8:00 p.m.
8.....	@ Maryland	College Park, Md.....	7:00 p.m.
14.....	VS. CLEMSON	TALLAHASSEE, FLA.....	7:00 P.M.
16.....	VS. GEORGIA TECH	TALLAHASSEE, FLA.....	1:00 P.M.
20.....	@ NC State	Raleigh, NC.....	7:00 p.m.
21.....	@ North Carolina	Chapel Hill, NC.....	7:00 p.m.
26.....	VS. MIAMI.....	TALLAHASSEE, FLA.....	2:00 P.M.



Head Coach Chris Poole and the 2008 Seniors



2008 SEASON OUTLOOK

2008 TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

FLORIDA STATE INVITATIONAL

AUGUST 29-30
LUCY MCDANIEL COURT AT TULLY GYM
TALLAHASSEE, FLA.

PARTICIPANTS

- Florida State
- Florida A&M
- Bowling Green
- Stetson



SCHEDULE

- **Friday, Aug. 29**
Bowling Green vs. Stetson..... 2:00 p.m.
Florida State vs. Florida A&M 6:00 p.m.
- **Saturday, Aug. 30**
Stetson vs. Florida A&M10:00 a.m.
Florida State vs. Bowling Green 1:00 p.m.
Bowling Green vs. Florida A&M..... 4:00 p.m.
Florida State vs. Stetson..... 7:00 p.m.

SEMINOLE TRI-TOURNAMENT

SEPTEMBER 5-7
LUCY MCDANIEL COURT AT TULLY GYM
TALLAHASSEE, FLA.

PARTICIPANTS

- Florida State
- North Florida
- South Dakota State



SCHEDULE

- **Friday, Sept. 5**
Florida State vs. North Florida..... 7:00 p.m.
- **Saturday, Sept. 6**
South Dakota State vs. North Florida 3:00 p.m.
- **Sunday, Sept. 7**
Florida State vs. South Dakota State..... 12:00 p.m.

RAIDER CHALLENGE

SEPTEMBER 12-13
C.J. MCLIN GYMNASIUM
DAYTON, OHIO

PARTICIPANTS

- Florida State
- Morehead State
- Niagara
- Wright State



SCHEDULE

- **Friday, Sept. 12**
Niagara vs. Florida State 5:00 p.m.
Wright State vs. Morehead State..... 7:00 p.m.
- **Saturday, Sept. 13**
Wright State vs. Niagara 12:00 p.m.
Florida State vs. Morehead State 2:00 p.m.
Morehead State vs. Niagara 5:00 p.m.
Wright State vs. Florida State 7:00 p.m.

