



KANSAS

@KUVolleyball
#KUvball

2018 MATCH NOTES

KANSAS SCHEDULE

RANK	DATE	KU / OPP	OPPONENT	TIME / RESULT
	8/24	rv -	at Arkansas	6 p.m.
	8/26	rv -	ARKANSAS	1 p.m.

Bluegrass Battle (Lexington, Ky.)

8/31	vs. Dayton	9 a.m.
8/31	vs. College of Charleston	5:30 p.m.
9/1	at Kentucky	6 p.m.

Kansas Invitational (Lawrence, Kan.)

9/7	AMERICAN	12 p.m.
9/7	AUBURN	7 p.m.
9/8	LOYOLA MARYMOUNT	1 p.m.

Tussle in the Triad (Greensboro & Elon, N.C.)

9/14	at Elon	5 p.m.
9/15	at UNC Greensboro	9:30 a.m.
9/15	vs. High Point	3 p.m.
9/18	DRAKE	6:30 p.m.
9/22	TCU *	1 p.m.
9/26	at Oklahoma *	8 p.m.
10/3	WEST VIRGINIA *	6:30 p.m.
10/6	BAYLOR *	1 p.m.
10/10	TEXAS *	6 p.m.
10/13	at Texas Tech *	1 p.m.
10/17	at Kansas State *	8 p.m.
10/20	IOWA STATE *	1 p.m.
10/27	at Baylor *	12 p.m.
10/31	at West Virginia *	5 p.m.
11/3	TEXAS TECH *	TBA
11/10	at Texas *	8 p.m.
11/14	KANSAS STATE *	6:30 p.m.
11/17	at TCU *	1 p.m.
11/21	at Iowa State *	6:30 p.m.
11/24	OKLAHOMA *	1 p.m.

All times Central. Home matches in ALL CAPS. * = conference match.

BY THE NUMBERS

UPCOMING CAREER MILESTONES

NAME	NEXT MILESTONE	CURRENT #
#5 Gabby Simpson	1,000 kills	818
#5 Gabby Simpson	700 digs	644
#1 Allie Nelson	600 digs	530
#4 Jada Burse	500 kills	461
#6 Zoe Hill	300 kills	264
#5 Gabby Simpson	200 blocks	194
#6 Zoe Hill	200 blocks	170
#12 Ashley Smith	100 kills	96
#4 Jada Burse	100 blocks	80
#5 Gabby Simpson	60 aces	56

CURRENT STREAKS

NAME	STREAK	CURRENT #
#1 Allie Nelson	Matches started	30
KANSAS	Home match sellouts (exhibition matches included)	23
KANSAS	20-win seasons; NCAA Tournament appearances; NCAA RPI top-20 finishes	6



-VS-



MATCHES 1 & 2

Kansas vs. Arkansas

Fayetteville, Ark. | Barnhill Arena
Friday, Aug. 24, 2018 | 6 p.m. CT

Lawrence, Kan. | Horejsi Family Athletics Center
Sunday, Aug. 26, 2018 | 1 p.m. CT

KANSAS			ARKANSAS	
RV AVCA	0-0	OVERALL	0-0	NR AVCA
4th BIG 12 PRESEASON	0-0	CONF.	0-0	7th SEC PRESEASON
Ray Bechard 21st Season // 374-240 (.609)		COACH	Jason Watson Third Season // 28-32 (.467)	
.360 #6 Zoe Hill	.255	ATK%	.235	.288 #8 E. Pamphile
3.66 #8 Kelsie Payne *	14.01	KILLS	13.60	5.47 #21 Pilar Victoria *
11.37 #11 Anise Havili *	13.17	AST	12.99	11.23 #1 Rachel Rippee
0.08 #1 Allie Nelson	0.81	ACE	1.23	0.28 #21 Pilar Victoria *
4.36 #1 Allie Nelson	15.64	DIG	14.58	3.61 #12 Okiana Valle
0.98 #6 Zoe Hill	2.00	BLK	2.01	0.99 #10 Kelly O'Brien

2017 Statistics // * - Non-returning player for 2018

SERIES AT A GLANCE

Overall	Kansas leads, 7-4
in Fayetteville	Kansas leads, 4-1
in Lawrence	Tied, 3-3
Last Meeting	9/3/2016 - Kansas, 3-2
Streak	Kansas W3

BROADCAST INFORMATION

SEC Network + (Friday)

WatchESPN.com

Josh Haley (play-by-play), Caitilin Donahoe (analyst)

Jayhawk Television Network (Sunday)

ESPN+

Leif Lisee (play-by-play), Jill Dorsey-Hall (analyst)

Jayhawk IMG Radio Network

KUAthletics.com/radio | KLWN-AM 1320

Jackson Schneider

QUICK HITS

• Friday marks the start of the 2018 volleyball season, which is the KU's 43rd season and 21st under head coach **Ray Bechard**. In his time with the Crimson and Blue, Bechard has compiled a 374-240 record and guided Kansas to all of its nine NCAA Tournament appearances. Bechard is the winningest coach in program history.

• The Jayhawks and Razorbacks are meeting for the 12th and 13th time in program history this weekend. **KU leads the series, 7-4**, including a 4-1 advantage in Fayetteville. The series is even, 3-3, in Lawrence. Kansas has won the last three matches in the series.

• KU begins the 2018 campaign receiving votes in the AVCA Coaches Poll. Arkansas is unranked.

• Coach Bechard has a pair of first-year KU assistants in **Billy Ebel** and **Maggie Bowen**. Ebel is a nationally-respected coach and former men's player at Ball State who comes to Lawrence after a five-year stint at Lipscomb. Bowen is a former setter at KU under Coach Bechard and last season was the Jayhawks' director of volleyball operations.

• **Kansas is 17-3 in season-openers** under Coach Bechard, including four-straight season-opening wins. Friday will mark the second time Kansas has opened its season against the Razorbacks in Fayetteville since a 3-1 KU victory on Sept. 1, 2004.

• Kansas enters the weekend with a 14-6 record in true road openers under Coach Bechard, including five-straight road-opening victories.

• This marks the first time in program history that KU has opened three-straight seasons with a true road match -- at Mississippi State in 2016, at NC State in 2017 and at Arkansas in 2018.

• **The Jayhawks are 23-1 in home openers since 1993**, including a 19-1 mark under Coach Bechard. Last season, KU swept No. 13 Kentucky to open its home schedule at Horejsi Family Athletics Center. KU's only home-opening loss since 1993 came in five sets to Arkansas in 2013 after a string of 20-straight home-opening wins.

• For the third-consecutive season, season tickets for KU's home matches at Horejsi Family Athletics Center are **sold out**.

• Kansas returns seven letter winners from the 2017 season, as well as 33 percent of its total points (653.5 returning / 1,330.0 lost), seven percent of its assists (103 / 1,451) and 67 percent of its digs (1,221 / 624).

• KU's returning starters are junior defensive specialist **Allie Nelson**, junior middle blocker **Zoe Hill** and junior outside hitter **Jada Burse**. Last season, Nelson led KU in digs per set (4.36), Hill led the Jayhawks in blocks per set (0.98) and Burse was KU's third-leading kills producer (2.48 kills per set).

AVCA COACHES POLL

2018 Preseason

RANK	SCHOOL (1ST-PLACE VOTES)	PTS	2017 W-L	2017 FINAL
1	Stanford (43)	1575	30-4	4
2	Nebraska (20)	1525	32-4	1
3	Texas	1389	27-3	5
4	Minnesota	1342	28-6	10
5	Kentucky	1260	29-4	6
6	Penn State	1227	33-2	3
7	Florida (1)	1208	30-2	2
8	BYU	1183	30-3	7
9	Wisconsin	1146	22-10	12
10	Southern California	1019	25-10	7
11	UCLA	850	21-11	14
12	Illinois	782	23-11	17
13	Creighton	651	26-7	16
14	San Diego	632	25-5	13
15	Colorado	609	24-10	19
16	Baylor	597	24-7	21
17	Washington	503	25-8	15
18	Oregon	443	18-12	RV
19	Utah	424	24-10	13
20	Pittsburgh	352	26-7	RV
21	Iowa State	284	22-7	25
22	Michigan State	250	24-9	8
23	Purdue	225	23-10	18
24	Cal Poly	209	27-3	22
25	Colorado State	174	29-4	24

Others receiving votes and listed on two or more ballots:
 Marquette 163; Michigan 153; Missouri 148; Wichita State 103;
 Louisville 88; KANSAS 66; Western Kentucky 58; Washington
 State 47; Hawai'i 27; Florida State 17; LSU 13; Miami (FL) 8;
 Oregon State 6; Missouri State 4
 2018 KU Opponent

WEEK-BY-WEEK RANKINGS

WEEK	RECORD	AVCA	NCAA RPI
2012 Final	26-7	25	9
2013 Final	25-8	17	12
2014 Final	22-9	-	15
2015 Final	30-3	4	6
2016 Final	27-3	12	10
2017 Preseason	0-0	8	-
Aug. 28	3-0	9	-
Sept. 4	6-0	7	-
Sept. 11	9-1	9	-
Sept. 18	11-2	12	-
Sept. 25	12-2	11	-
Oct. 2	14-2	11	11
Oct. 9	16-2	9	12
Oct. 16	16-3	11	12
Oct. 23	18-3	11	11
Oct. 30	19-4	12	12
Nov. 6	20-4	11	12
Nov. 13	21-5	16	12
Nov. 20	22-6	14	12
Nov. 27	22-7	19	19
2017 Final	22-8	rv	20
2018 Preseason	0-0	rv	-

BIG 12 STANDINGS

2017 Final

TEAM	— BIG 12 —						— OVERALL —					
	W-L	%	H	A	N	S	W-L	%	H	A	N	S
Texas	16-0	1.000	8-0	8-0	0-0	W16	27-3	.900	12-1	11-2	4-0	L1
Baylor	13-3	.813	6-2	7-1	0-0	L1	24-7	.774	13-4	8-2	3-1	L1
Iowa State	11-5	.688	6-2	5-3	0-0	W3	22-7	.759	11-4	8-3	3-0	L1
KANSAS	11-5	.688	5-3	6-2	0-0	L1	22-8	.733	8-4	9-3	5-1	L2
West Virginia	6-10	.375	4-4	2-6	0-0	W2	21-13	.618	10-5	5-8	6-0	L1
Texas Tech	4-12	.250	3-5	1-7	0-0	L2	19-15	.559	7-5	6-10	6-0	L1
TCU	4-12	.250	2-6	2-6	0-0	W1	15-17	.469	8-8	4-8	3-1	L1
Oklahoma	4-12	.250	2-6	2-6	0-0	L4	7-22	.241	3-8	2-10	2-4	L4
Kansas State	3-13	.188	2-6	1-7	0-0	L1	10-19	.345	3-9	2-9	5-1	L1

INSIDE THE NUMBERS

KU PRODUCTION RETURNING / LOST FROM 2017

CATEGORY	RTN.	%	LOST	%
Letter Winners	7	50%	7	50%
Matches Started	57	32%	123	68%
Points	653.5	33%	1,330.0	67%
Kills	550	33%	1,103	67%
Blocks	174	39%	272	61%
Aces	10	11%	85	89%
Assists	103	7%	1,451	93%
Digs	1,221	66%	624	34%

LAST FIVE ROAD OPENERS

SEASON	OPPONENT	RESULT
2013	at Arizona	W, 3-1
2014	at Denver	W, 3-1
2015	at Arkansas	W, 3-1
2016	at Mississippi State	W, 3-0 *
2017	at NC State	W, 3-1 *
2018	at Arkansas	Friday *

* - Also the regular-season opener

LAST FIVE HOME OPENERS

SEASON	OPPONENT	RESULT
2013	Arkansas	L, 2-3
2014	Utah Valley	W, 3-0 *
2015	Western Illinois	W, 3-0
2016	Chicago State	W, 3-0
2017	#13 Kentucky	W, 3-0
2018	Arkansas	Sunday

* - Also the regular-season opener

KU HIGHEST SEASON WINNING PERCENTAGES

YEAR	WIN-LOSS	WIN %
2016	27-3	.900
2015	30-3	.909
2012	26-7	.788
2013	25-8	.758
1986	26-9	.743
2017	22-8	.733

SIX-STRAIGHT ...

NCAA Tournament appearances, including a Final Four in 2015

Top-20 finishes in the NCAA RPI, including a No. 5 finish in 2016

20-win seasons, including one 30-win season in 2015

KU IN HOREJSI FAMILY ATHLETICS CENTER

SEASON	RECORD	WINNING %
2012	15-1	.938
2013	9-3	.750
2014	12-3	.800
2015	15-1	.938
2016	13-1	.929
2017	8-4	.667
2018	0-0	-
2012-18	72-13	.847



RAY BECHARD

HEAD COACH

21st Season at KU // 34th Season Overall

Alma Mater	Fort Hays State, 1980
Hometown	Grinnell, Kan.
Wife	Pamela
NCAA Tournament Appearances	9
AVCA All-Americans	23

YEAR-BY-YEAR AT KANSAS

YEAR	W	L	%	NOTES
1998	15	17	.469	
1999	17	14	.548	
2000	15	14	.517	Undefeated nonconference
2001	16	15	.516	
2002	19	10	.655	
2003	22	11	.667	KU's 1st NCAA appearance 1st 20-win season since '91
2004	19	12	.613	NCAA First Round Undefeated nonconference
2005	15	15	.500	NCAA First Round
2006	10	19	.345	
2007	13	17	.433	
2008	13	16	.448	
2009	16	14	.533	
2010	17	14	.548	
2011	15	14	.517	
2012	26	7	.788	NCAA Second Round No. 25 final ranking 3rd in Big 12 Big 12 Coach of the Year
2013	25	8	.758	NCAA Sweet 16 No. 17 final ranking 2nd in Big 12 Big 12 Coach of the Year
2014	22	9	.710	NCAA First Round t-2nd in Big 12
2015	30	3	.909	NCAA Final Four No. 4 final ranking 2nd in Big 12 Big 12 Coach of the Year Undefeated nonconference
2016	26	3	.929	Big 12 Champions Big 12 Coach of the Year NCAA Second Round No. 12 final ranking
2017	22	8	.733	KU-record 4 top-25 wins NCAA Tournament
2018	0	0	-	
Career	1090	300	.784	34th season overall
at KU	374	240	.609	21st season at KU

QUICK FACTS

School:	University of Kansas
Location:	Lawrence, Kan.
Founded:	1866
Mascot:	Jayhawks
Conference:	Big 12
Enrollment:	28,401
Colors:	Crimson and Blue
Arena:	Horejsi Family Athletics Center (pronounced HOR-ish)
Capacity:	1,300
Chancellor:	Douglas A. Girod
Athletics Director:	Jeff Long
Associate AD/SWA:	Nicole Corcoran
Associate AD (VB Administrator):	Jim Marchiony
Website:	kuathletics.com

TEAM HISTORY

1st Year of Volleyball:	1975
All-Time Record:	800-698-12 (.530)
All-Time Big 12 Record (1996-present):	179-233 (.434)
All-Time Big Eight Record (1983-95):	39-109 (.264)
2017 Overall Record:	22-8
2016 Big 12 Record (Finish):	11-5 (t-3rd)
Conference Titles:	One (2016)
NCAA Tournament appearances:	Nine (2003, 2004, 2005, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017)
NCAA Tournament Second Round appearances:	Six (2003, 2004, 2012, 2013, 2015, 2016)
NCAA Tournament Regional Semifinal app.:	Two (2013, 2015)
NCAA Tournament Regional Final appearances:	One (2015)
NCAA Tournament National Semifinal app.:	One (2015)

COACHING STAFF

Head Coach:	Ray Bechard (21st Season at KU)
Assistant Coach:	Billy Ebel (First)
Assistant Coach:	Maggie Anderson (Second)
Dir. of VB Operations:	Tori Miller (First)
Volunteer Assistant Coach:	Skyler Yee (Second)

SUPPORT STAFF







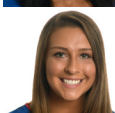







VB Sport Administrator:	Jim Marchiony
Athletic Trainer:	Ann Wallace
Strength & Conditioning Coach:	Luke Bradford
Communications:	Brian Karst
Marketing:	Danny Leviton
Facilities & Home Events:	Mallory Gilliland
Equipment Manager:	Larry Hare
Student-Athlete Development:	Scott Ward
Academic Support:	Vince McKamie, Cote Smith, Bobby Nichols

QUICK HITS (CONT.)

- KU's lone senior is left-handed setter/right-side hitter **Gabby Simpson**, a transfer who redshirted during her first season with KU in 2017. Simpson was an All-Pac 12 honoree at Colorado in 2015 and 2016, and has eight career triple-doubles.
- Burse and Simpson are KU's 2018 **Preseason All-Big 12 honorees**.
- Kansas was picked to finish fourth in the Preseason Big 12 Coaches Poll.
- Junior outside hitters **Patricia Montero** and **Ashley Smith** are KU's only fourth-year players on the 2018 roster. The duo redshirted during KU's magical run to the **Final Four in 2015**.
- Montero is returning to action this season after a knee injury sidelined her for the 2017 season. The Puerto Rico native started 15 matches in 2016.
- Included in KU's production lost from the 2017 season are **three AVCA All-Americans** -- four-year starting setter Ainise Havili, right-side hitter Kelsie Payne and outside hitter Madison Rigdon. All three are still playing volleyball. Payne with a professional team in Brazil (E.C. Pinheiros), while Havili and Rigdon are beach volleyball teammates as graduate transfers at Arizona.
- Last season, Kansas posted a 22-8 overall record and an 11-5 record during Big 12 play to earn a **sixth-straight berth in the NCAA Tournament**. The Jayhawks ended the 2017 season receiving votes in the AVCA Coaches Poll after being ranked in the top-25 for 45-straight weeks prior to the end of the season.
- KU has finished each of the last six seasons with at least a top-20 RPI ranking (No. 20 in 2017).
- The Jayhawks will play 10 matches against 2017 NCAA Tournament teams this season.
- The 2018 season is the **20th and final season of KU's home court** -- Horejsi Family Athletics Center. The facility will be torn down and rebuilt as the new Horejsi Family Volleyball Arena after the season.

UP NEXT

Kansas travels to Lexington, Kentucky, for the Bluegrass Battle next weekend. The Jayhawks will face **Dayton** and **College of Charleston** on Friday, Aug. 31, followed by a primetime matchup against host No. 5 **Kentucky** on Saturday, Sept. 1 at 6 p.m. Central.

	1	Allie Nelson Jr. 2L L/DS 5-6 Chicago, Ill.	Started all 30 matches as KU's libero in 2017, ranking fourth in the Big 12 in digs per set (4.36) ... Used as a reserve during KU's 2016 Big 12 title run, averaging 1.33 digs per set ... Mom played volleyball at Iowa.	CAREER HIGHS DIGS: 28 2x, last vs. Texas, 10/11/2017 ACES: 3 2x, last at Kansas State, 9/24/2017 ASSISTS: 7 vs. San Jose State, 9/15/2017
	2	Rachel Langs Fr. HS MB 6-3 Fairview, Texas	A high school All-American middle blocker who is poised to earn immediate playing time for the Jayhawks as a freshman ... Has length and athleticism that make her a lethal threat both offensively and defensively.	CAREER HIGHS BLOCKS: - KILLS: - ATK %: -
	3	Jacqui Mostrom So. RS+1L L/DS 5-3 Springfield, Mo.	Third-year sophomore defensive specialist ... Signed with the Jayhawks during the summer of 2016 and redshirted during KU's Big 12 title run.	CAREER HIGHS DIGS: 7 vs. Baylor, 11/11/2017 ACES: - ASSISTS: 2 at Iowa State, 10/28/2017
	4	Jada Burse Jr. 2L OH 6-1 DeSoto, Texas	Dynamic All-Big 12 outside hitter with two years of starting experience entering her junior campaign ... Named to the Big 12 All-Freshman Team in 2016, helping Kansas capture the Big 12 title ... Former AAU High School All-American.	CAREER HIGHS KILLS: 16 2x, last at Baylor, 11/26/2016 BLOCKS: 6 vs. Missouri State, 8/26/2017 DIGS: 5 vs. Texas, 10/11/2017
	5	Gabby Simpson Sr. TR+RS RS/S 6-3 Colorado Springs, Colo.	Graduated from KU in May 2018 and is pursuing a graduate degree ... Redshirted during the 2017 season after transferring from Colorado ... Left-handed ... Three-year starter at Colorado who earned All-Pac-12 honors in 2015 and 2016 ... Has extended family in the Lawrence area.	CAREER HIGHS KILLS: 25 vs. Stanford, 10/18/2015 * ASSISTS: 48 vs. Butler, 9/13/2014 * DIGS: 16 USC, 10/9/2015 * ACES: 6 vs. Portland State, 9/5/2014 *
	6	Zoe Hill Jr. 2L MB 5-11 Houston, Texas	Springy and fast-paced All-Big 12 middle blocker ... Is KU's most-experienced returning starter, entering her junior season with 41 career starts ... Started in 14 matches during KU's Big 12 title run in 2016.	CAREER HIGHS KILLS: 11 Kansas State, 11/8/2017 BLOCKS: .769 (10-0-13) at Oklahoma, 10/7/2017 ATK %: 6 9/5/2014 vs. Portland State *
	7	Camryn Ennis Fr. HS OH/S 6-0 San Antonio, Texas	Talented high school All-American setter and a pin hitter who will compete for playing time immediately during her freshman season ... Two-time <i>San Antonio Express-News</i> Player of the Year in 2016 and 2017.	CAREER HIGHS KILLS: - ASSISTS: - DIGS: - ACES: -
	8	Kailea Carrier Fr. HS MB/RS 6-5 Olathe, Kan.	An elite blocker with the ability to play multiple positions ... Both her parents are retired hall-of-fame collegiate basketball head coaches ... Will not play during the 2018 season (injury).	CAREER HIGHS BLOCKS: - KILLS: - ATK %: -
	9	Mmachi Nwoke Jr. 1L MB 6-1 Grand Prairie, Texas	Second-year junior and one of two returning middle blockers with starting experience ... Provides size and quickness to KU's middle blockers ... Born and raised in Texas, but has full Nigerian heritage.	CAREER HIGHS BLOCKS: 6 vs. Butler, 9/2/2016 * KILLS: 11 at Oklahoma, 10/7/2017 ATK %: .786 (11-0-14) at Oklahoma, 10/7/2017
	12	Ashley Smith Jr. RS+2L OH 6-0 Las Vegas, Nev.	Fourth-year junior who will compete to be a primary outside hitter in 2018 ... Showed her reliability when starting for injured All-American Kelsie Payne to help defeat Iowa State and clinch the Big 12 title for KU in 2016 ... Won a high school state title in Nevada.	CAREER HIGHS KILLS: 14 at TCU, 11/4/2017 DIGS: 4 Iowa State, 11/19/2016 ACES: 3 2x, last at TCU, 11/4/2017
	13	Patricia Montero Jr. RS+2L OH 5-10 Ponce, Puerto Rico	A skilled six-rotation player, featuring dynamic hitting and versatile passing skills ... Stands out in the classroom, having been listed on the Big 12 Commissioner's Honor Roll in all semesters at KU ... Puerto Rico native with experience on her home commonwealth's junior national team.	CAREER HIGHS KILLS: 10 vs. Chattanooga, 9/9/2016 DIGS: 4 Iowa State, 11/19/2016 ACES: 3 2x, last vs. Xavier, 9/16/2016
	15	Audri Suter Fr. HS L/DS 5-4 Flower Mound, Texas	Added to KU's roster in the summer of 2018 ... Will add depth to KU's defensive specialists.	CAREER HIGHS DIGS: - ACES: - ASSISTS: -
	16	Lacey Angello Fr. HS L/DS 5-8 Lansing, Kan.	Skilled defensive specialist who will compete for playing time immediately during her freshman season.	CAREER HIGHS DIGS: - ACES: - ASSISTS: -
	17	Annika Carlson So. 1L S 5-11 Olathe, Kan.	Starting setter during KU's exhibition match against UMKC last Saturday ... Standout setter from Olathe South High School ... The lone high school signee of KU's 2017 recruiting class.	CAREER HIGHS ASSISTS: 3 Texas Tech, 10/21/2017 DIGS: - ACES: -