

# The Mintonette

A Newsletter of the Longmeadow Volleyball Booster Club.

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## Season Summary

The Lancer started September on a five-game win streak. The biggest win was against East Longmeadow on September 18th. The Lancers won 3-0. Steph Lauria scored 21 points with 10 aces in the victory. Anna McGann had 18 points with 9 kills.

The first win was against Greenfield on September 9th. The Lancers won 3-0. Katelyn Boutin had 21 Ball Handling Attempts with 11 Assists. On September 11th, the Turners Falls Indians paid a visit to Longmeadow. The Lancers won 3-0. Steph Lauria and Anna McGann led the offence. Ali Donnelly had 45 Ball Handling Attempts with 18 assists. After a loong bus trip to Orange, MA., on September 15th, the Lancers defeated Mahar Regional 3-0. Hanna McGrath had 4 nice Kills and Megan Houff had two slam kills at the net. Erica Oundjian had two kills from the outside. Mackenzie Ditomassi, Hannah McGrath, Megan Houff, Anna McGann Amanda Brock and Katelyn Boutin combined for 8 Block Assists. Caroline Martin led the defense with 15 digs followed by Steph Lauria with 10 and Desiree Santaniello with 6 total digs for the Lancers.

Prior to the Minnechaug game, season statistic highlights include: Steph Lauria, Anna McGann, and Desiree Santaniello lead in service Aces with 22, 15 and 9 respectively. Hitting all Serve Attempts (100% accuracy) without a service error is Megan Houff, Ali Donnelly, Amanda Brock, Erica Oundjian and Katelyn Boutin. Steph Lauria, Olivia O'Hara, Hannah McGrath, Megan Houff, and Anna McGann have lead the Lancer attack in Kill shots with 24, 10, 12,9, and 3 respectively. Sara Underwood, out with an injury after game 1 has hit 3 kills shots in 3 attempts (100% accuracy). Sara is expected back for the Minnechaug game. Ali Donnelly leads the setters in ball handling averaging 7 assists per game, Katelyn Boutin at . On defense, Caroline Martin averaged 5 receptions per game. Megan Houff has the only solo block for Longmeadow with 2 block assists for a total of 2 total blocks. Varsity newcomers Sophomores Kaitlin Corbett, Cady Deary and Natalie Fioretti have seen limited action and are expected to contribute to Lancer success.

## FORMER LANCER, ANDREA DAVIS JOINS THE CRUSADERS

**Worcester** – Andrea Davis (LHS 2009) has matriculated to the College of the Holy Cross. She is a member of the NCAA Division I, (Patriot League) Holy Cross Crusaders Volleyball team. Andrea was a three-year member of the varsity volleyball team at LHS. Last year, Andrea was senior captain for Lancer Volleyball. In 2007 and 2008, she was a League All-Star, while she earned 2007 and 2008 first team All-Scholastic accolades. In her senior year, Andrea was a member of the 2008 Springfield Republican's Super Seven and was named AVCA Player of the Week. She earned Most Outstanding Player honors at the 2007 Volleyball Hall of Fame Showcase of Champions. Andrea has set the LHS school records for career kills with 478, single-season kills record with 260 (2008), while she also set single-game records with 26 kills and 35 digs. Andrea also had 587 career digs and 99 career service aces. Andrea was a key player in the 2007 and 2008 Western Massachusetts Championship.



Second-year Holy Cross volleyball coach Marritt Cafarchia is looking forward to start of the 2009 season and is excited about her team. "The team has a huge sense of excitement to start the season," said Cafarchia. Freshmen Andrea Davis is expected to contribute right away. "I expect a lot," said Cafarchia. Practice started in early August. "Pre-season has been like boot camp. Andrea is in the best shape of her life. And, she is really enjoying the experience," said Jo-Ann Davis, LHS Booster Club Alumni member, and Andrea's mom. The Lancer Volleyball program wishes much success to Andrea and knows the Crusaders will improve last year's 1 win and 25 losses record with Andrea's contribution.

## LANCER HEAD COACH WINS AVCA AWARD

LEXINGTON, Ky. – The American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) announced in the February/March edition of Coaching Volleyball. That Lancer coach George Mulry is being honored with its inaugural Thirty Under 30 Award. This award was created to honor thirty of the up-and-coming volleyball coaches under 30 years old in the sport at all levels of the game. The nominee had to be an AVCA member, and had to be younger than 30 years old in 2009.

"Reading the biographies, accomplishments and philosophies of this group of award winners gives me confidence about the future of our game," said Kathy DeBoer, AVCA Executive Director. "Our rising stars are diverse, hard-working and passionate about teaching - good news for volleyball."

Of the thirty recipients, head coach and assistant coach numbers were split 15-15. Ten are NCAA Division I women's coaches, five are NCAA Division II women's coaches, five are High School girls' coaches, four are women's coaches in NCAA Division III, three are from Two-Year Colleges, two coach Division I-II men, and there was one NAIA women's coach.

The Longmeadow Volleyball Family is proud of Coach and this award. In 2 seasons as coach of Longmeadow, Coach Mulry has led the Lancers to 2 Western Mass championships. We know the Lancers have done well under Coach. In addition, Coach is entering his 5th year coaching Juniors Volleyball. Coach was one of two recipients to double-up as a club coach.

## GOAL – Win with a 3.30 GPA

Lexington, KY - While other high schools may dominate girl's volleyball on the court in Massachusetts over the years, Longmeadow has been a team to fear in Divisions 2 in Western Massachusetts. In addition, off the court, the lady Lancers have won the AVCA [American Volleyball Coaches Association] Team Academic award the last two years. Last season, the only other teams in the state to win it were Bourne and Sacred Heart.

Coach Mulry took the team to Cape Cod over the Labor Day weekend for a play day and was pleased with the results. Besides wonderful matches, the lady Lancers bonded. Seniors Katelyn Boutin, Stephanie Lauria and Sara Underwood bring experience to the floor and together they are a force to be reckoned with. This year, Captains Stephanie Lauria, Caroline Martin, Anna McGann and Ali Donnelly facilitated setting team goals for the season and as always they set their sights high. Among them are to repeat as Conference champs, win the Sectional title, go for the state championship and of course repeat winning the AVCA Academic award.

The award honors teams that have a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.30 (on a 4.00 scale) or 4.10 (on a 5.00 scale) during the full academic year (both semesters or all quarters), and include all varsity athletes who competed in volleyball with the institution for any portion of the academic year.

On the court, the Lancers have won back-to-back Western Mass championships since 2007. This year promises to be more of the same as coach George Mulry enters his third year at the helm. The Lancers are off to a 5-0 start, topping Greenfield, Turners Falls, Mahar, East Longmeadow and Minnechaug, dropping just one set in the process.

Last year's team posted an 18-4 record, losing in the State semi-final to Central Catholic. Along the way it won the Western Mass title for only the second time in school history.



**LONGMEADOW  
LANCER VOLLEYBALL**

*"Underestimate Us?"*

**2009**

## JV lance EL

East Longmeadow - In the best of 3 sets, the Lancer JV Team won 2-1 over the East Longmeadow (EL) Spartans on September 18th.

The first set ended 28-26 with the Lancer's losing. There were moments of brilliance. But, errors in the last 10 points led to the loss. Freshman Julie Yesu (middle blocker) started off the match with 2 consecutive aces. Setter sophomore Sindhu Kondaveeti covered the full court trying to set-up kill points. Sindhu Kondaveeti was getting passes from Libero Sam Grodsky (Class of 2012). Middle blocker sophomore Erin Kiernan was effective at the net. After a nice kill shot by sophomore outside hitter Andrea Dimauro, opposite Megan Smith (class of 2012) served 2 aces to take Longmeadow to 10-5. Lancer errors brought the score to 11-11. A wonderful kill shot by Julie Yesu kept the Lancer in the game. A nice ace by Sindhu Kondaveeti tied the game at 15-15. Lancer took the lead on a big kill by Megan Smith. Three consecutive aces by Freshman Amanda Tyler (middle blocker), the score was 19-15 Lancers. East Longmeadow subbed in but Amanda Tyler served another ace and it looked like the Lancers were in the win. Score 20-15. But, the Spartans fought back to 21-19. A timely kill by Julie Yesu put the score at 22-19. The teams traded errors to bring the score to 24-22. One more point, Lancers would win. Two errors by the Lancers and an ace by EL brought the score to 25-24, Spartans ahead. Time out Longmeadow. Parents and spectators cheered to will the win. Error by East Longmeadow and we are tied 25-25. Kill by Sindhu Kondaveeti. One point left to win. Time out Spartans. Lancers to serve. Point Spartans. Spartans to serve. Point Spartans. One more point for a Spartan win. Ace serve. Spartans win. Amanda Tyler finishes with 4 aces. Julie Yesu with 3 aces and 2 kills.

### Set 2

East Longmeadow serves, first year outside hitter Emily Martin returns a kill shot. Lancers up 1-0. Trading points, the match is tied 4-4. Then EL takes over and the score is 7-4. First year outside hitter Jen Hurwitz fires a backwards kill shot. Score 7-5 EL. Libero Sirena Gebeau (class of 2012) is running all over the court tracking down wayward balls. The teams are trading kill shots, aces and errors. The score is 14-12 EL. Lancers take over the lead with successful kill shots and aces. The score is 21-15 Lancers. Two aces by Rachel Kofman (class of 2013) and the score is 23-15 Lancers. An error by the Lancers and EL serves. An ace and an error, the score is 24-17. Jen Hurwitz serves an ace. Lancers win 25-17. Lancers win with 9 kills and 7 aces. Sirena Gebeau has 3 aces to lead the Lancers.

### Set 3

Trading aces, kills, and errors, the score is tied at 3-3. Jen Hurwitz hits two kill shots - Lancers ahead 5-3. A kill shot by middle blocker sophomore Jasmine Papoutsakis and an ace by outside hitter sophomore Alexa Engelman - Lancers in command at 7-3. Spartans fight back 7-6. Point Longmeadow 8-6. Five aces by Megan Smith, Lancers ahead 13-6. Forced error by the Spartans, 14-6 Lancers. Longmeadow kill shot by first year setter Makayla Syphrit, - Lancers out in front 15-6. Spartans and Lancers trade errors score 16-7. An ace by Jen Hurwitz and a kill by Jasmine Papoutsakis, Lancers are in control 18-7. Seven points for a Lancer win. Seven aces by Jen Hurwitz for the win. 25-7 Longmeadow.

After the game, Coach Wheezy Salamon said "In the last set, they played like a team and jelled." The J.V. team is 4-0 on the season. It's anticipated that Sammi Maynard, Patty Camerota and Bri Christofori will contribute in the remaining games. The win over EL proves that the future of Lancer Volleyball is bright.

## Kill (True) or Ball Handling Error - BHE (False)

1. The sport of volleyball was originally called "mintonette". **Kill or BHE?**
2. By the turn of the twenty-first century, volleyball had spread throughout the world, its number of participants second only to soccer's. **Kill or BHE?**
3. Misty May-Treanor is in the Volleyball Hall of Fame. **Kill or BHE?**
4. Volleyball was invented at Springfield College. **Kill or BHE?**
5. "The Howling Bear" is considered to be one of the most successful and long-serving international coaches in the history of volleyball. **Kill or BHE?**
6. A total of 88 individuals have been enshrined into the Volleyball Hall of Fame. **Kill or BHE?**

### ANSWERS

1. **Kill** - Hence, the name of our newsletter
2. **Kill** - What happened?
3. **BHE** - Not yet
4. **BHE** - invented at the Holyoke YMCA
5. **Kill** - See Nikolai Karpol at Hall of Fame
6. **Kill** - Go to the Hall of Fame to see them

### How did you do?

6 Right - Excellent job Coach!

5, 4, or 3 Right - You could be a Libero!

2 or 1 Right - Keep your day job!

Zero Right - Benchwarmer.



ABOVE - JV TEAM GATHER AT SEPTEMBER POT LUCK DINNER

## BOOSTER CLUB FUND RAISING

**Longmeadow** - The Booster Club reports membership contributions are behind budget. The Longmeadow Volleyball Booster Club gives a big "THANK YOU" to all that contributed - You are SUPER BOOSTERS! If anyone would like to contribute, they can send their donation (Check Payable to LHS Volleyball Booster Club) to:

LHS Girls Volleyball Booster Club, LHS, 95 Grassy Gutter Road, Longmeadow, MA 01106

## Lancers to Play in Spalding Showcase of Champions Tournament

For the third year (out of the 3 years the tournament has been held) the Lancers have been invited to play in the Spalding Showcase of Champions Tournament being held at Holyoke Community College on October 10th, 2009. The Volleyball Hall of Fame will host 24 girls' high school volleyball teams at the tournament in the "birthplace of volleyball." The tournament includes the most competitive girls' volleyball teams from New England and New York.

The first Lancer match will be played Saturday at 9 a.m. against Voorheesville (NY) High School. Pool Play will continue throughout the day. This Round Robin Tournament is structured with 2 six team round robin pools with playoff. Pool Play competitors for the Lancers are Bishop Feehan (MA) Central Catholic (MA) Millis (MA) Turners Falls (MA) and Voorheesville (NY). The other pool consists of Frontier (MA) Greely (ME) Merrimack (NH) New Bedford (MA) Newton South (MA) and Westborough (MA). The winner of Pool Play "A" will play the winner of Pool Play "B". The complete schedule of events is available at

[www.volleyhall.org](http://www.volleyhall.org). The showcase is a part of the Hall of Fame Induction Celebration. The Induction takes place on October 30. Six international greats will be inducted into the Hall of Fame for their contribution to the sport. In addition, the Volleyball Hall of Fame Reception and Dinner will be held at 6 p.m. at the Log Cabin Banquet and Meeting House. To continue the tradition started in 2007, the Booster Club will send the Lancer senior players and coaching staff to the celebration. For More Information -

[www.volleyhall.org](http://www.volleyhall.org)

## SPIKE IT FOR LIFE RAFFLE



LHS Volleyball Team is raising cancer awareness and fundraising for Baystate Regional Cancer Program through its Spike It for Life games on October 14 & 15. Part of the fundraising will be driven by a raffle. So, PLEASE . . . . . help us secure raffle prizes. . . . help us sell some tickets. . . . buy some tickets. Any questions??? Please call Pat Donnelly at (413) 219-3419.