

2016 SAINT LOUIS VOLLEYBALL QUICK FACTS

QUICK FACTS

Name of School _____ Saint Louis University
 Location _____ St. Louis, Mo.
 Founded _____ 1818
 Enrollment _____ 12,914
 Nickname _____ Billikens
 Colors _____ Royal Blue & White
 Facility _____ Chaifetz Pavilion
 Capacity _____ 800
 Affiliation _____ NCAA Division I
 Conference _____ Atlantic 10
 President _____ Dr. Fred Pestello
 Director of Athletics _____ Chris May
 Senior Woman Administrator _____ Janet Oberle
 Athletic Dept. Phone _____ (314) 977-3177
 Ticket Office Phone _____ (314) 977-4SLU

COACHING STAFF

Head Coach _____ Kent Miller
 Alma Mater, Year _____ Oregon State, 1984
 Record at School (yrs) _____ 81-70 (five)
 Career Record (yrs) _____ 217-295 (18)
 Volleyball Office Phone _____ (314) 977-3266
 Asst. Coaches _____ Ben Spurlock, Alli Arbogast
 Volunteer Asst. _____ Andy Halaz

TEAM INFORMATION

2014 Overall Record _____ 22-10
 Home _____ 12-5
 Road _____ 7-2
 Neutral _____ 3-3
 Conference Record / Finish _____ 10-4/ third
 Final AVCA National Ranking _____ None
 Starters Returning / Lost _____ 4 + libero / 2
 Letterwinners Returning / Lost _____ 13/3
 Newcomers _____ 3

PROGRAM HISTORY

First Year of Volleyball _____ 1975
 Program Record _____ 773-606
 Atlantic 10 Record _____ 107-46
 NCAA Tourney Appearances / Last _____ 3 / 2009
 Last Postseason Opponent _____ Wichita State
 Result _____ L, 3-1 in NCAA 1st Round

MEDIA RELATIONS

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 _____ @SLU_Volleyball

**When referring to Saint Louis University,
 ALWAYS spell out Saint as we are a
 Catholic institution.
 Use "St." for St. Louis, the city.**

2016 SCHEDULE

August

Sat., 20	Alumni Match	Chaifetz Pavilion	2 p.m.
Fri., 26	Michigan\$	Ann Arbor, Mich.	6 p.m.
Sat., 27	Northern Iowa\$	Ann Arbor, Mich.	Noon
Sat., 27	Miami (Ohio)\$	Ann Arbor, Mich.	4 p.m.
Wed., 31	Illinois State	Normal, Ill.	6 p.m.

September

Fri., 2	Arkansas State#	Chaifetz Arena	7 p.m.
Sat., 3	Western Kentucky#	Chaifetz Arena	Noon
Sat., 3	Cal Poly#	Chaifetz Arena	7 p.m.
Fri., 9	Marquette^	Lexington, Ky.	7 p.m.
Fri., 9	Virginia^	Lexington, Ky.	Noon
Sat., 10	Kentucky^	Lexington, Ky.	7 p.m.
Tue., 13	Austin Peay	Clarksville, Tenn.	5 p.m.
Fri., 16	Murray State%	Chaifetz Pavilion	7 p.m.
Sat., 17	Omaha%	Chaifetz Pavilion	Noon
Sat., 17	Illinois%	Chaifetz Pavilion	7 p.m.
Tue., 20	Western Illinois	Macomb, Ill.	6 p.m.
Fri., 23	George Mason*	Chaifetz Pavilion	7 p.m.
Sun., 25	George Washington*	Chaifetz Pavilion	1 p.m.

October

Sat., 1	Dayton*	Chaifetz Pavilion	1 p.m.
Fri., 7	Fordham*	Bronx, N.Y.	4 p.m.
Sat., 8	Rhode Island*	Kingston, R.I.	6 p.m.
Fri., 14	Davidson*	Davidson, N.C.	6 p.m.
Sun., 16	VCU*	Richmond, Va.	11 a.m.
Fri., 21	Duquesne*	Chaifetz Pavilion	7 p.m.
Sun., 23	La Salle*	Chaifetz Pavilion	1 p.m.
Fri., 28	Dayton*	Dayton, Ohio	6 p.m.

November

Fri., 4	La Salle*	Philadelphia, Pa.	7 p.m.
Sun., 6	Duquesne*	Pittsburgh, Pa.	Noon
Fri., 11	VCU*	Chaifetz Pavilion	5 p.m.
Fri., 13	Davidson*	Chaifetz Pavilion	1 p.m.
Fri., 18-20	Atlantic 10 Conference Championship	Chaifetz Pavilion	TBA

Bold Indicates Home Match
 \$ - Michigan Invitational
 # - Marcia E. Hamilton Classic
 ^ - Bluegrass Battle
 % - Billiken Invitational
 * - Atlantic 10 Conference Game

KEY RETURNEES

Danielle Rygelski, Sr., OH

- First Team All-Atlantic 10
- AVCA All-Midwest Region
- 4.24 kills per set in 2015 (Second in A-10)
- 59 aces in 2015, Third in NCAA
- Fifth among active Division I hitters with 1,285 career kills

Taylor Paulson, Sr., MB

- Hit .354 in 2015, second in A-10 and the third best season mark at SLU
- Led team with 109 blocks (0.93 per set)

Nenye Okoro, Jr., OH

- 2.36 kills per set and 3.05 digs per set as sophomore

Mackenzie Long, Jr., L

- Led team with 394 digs in 2015 (3.28 per set)

KEY INCOMERS

- Morgan Goodman, Fr., OH
- Katelyn Bright, Fr., DS
- Lauren Mershon, Fr., MB

2015 SAINT LOUIS VOLLEYBALL ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Cl.	Hometown (High School)
1	Ashley Gagen	S	5-8	Sr.	Belleville, Ill. (Althoff Catholic)
2	Jenny Backus	DS	5-4	So.	Jackson, Wis. (Kettle Moraine Lutheran)
3	Mackenzie Long	DS	5-4	Jr.	Walworth, Wis. (Big Foot)
4	Danielle Rygelski	OH	5-11	Sr.	St. Charles, Mo. (Francis Howell)
5	Monica Loftus	OH	6-0	So.	Lombard, Ill. (Montini Catholic)
6	Morgan Goodman	OH	5-11	Fr.	Cedar Hills, Mo. (Homeschooled)
7	Camila Rivas	S	5-9	So.	Orlando, Fla. (Olympia)
8	Katia Haak	OH	5-10	So.	Lake Mary, Fla. (Lake Mary)
9	Maddie Oh	DS	5-6	Jr.	Springfield, Ill. (Springfield)
10	Maryann Ejele	MB	6-2	Sr.	Virginia Beach, Va. (Princess Anne)
11	Katelyn Bright	DS	5-6	Fr.	Wildwood, Mo. (Cor Jesu)
12	Josie Gandall	OH	6-0	Jr.	Tulsa, Okla. (Bishop Kelley)
13	Nenye Okoro	OH	5-9	Jr.	Houston, Texas (Duchesne Academy of Sacred Heart)
14	Lauren Mershon	MB	6-2	Fr.	Minnetonka, Minn. (Minnetonka)
15	Lauren Leverenz	MB	6-0	Jr.	Crystal Lake, Ill. (Crystal Lake Central)
16	Taylor Paulson	MB	6-2	Sr.	Louisville, Ky. (Assumption)

Head Coach: Kent Miller (Oregon State, '84)

Assistant Coach: Ben Spurlock (Ohio State, '09)

Assistant Coach: Alli Arbogast (South Florida, '09)

Volunter Assistant: Andy Halaz

WHAT IS A BILLIKEN?

One of the truly unique mascots in college athletics, the Billiken is a symbol of good luck that became a national craze in the early 1900s.

In 1908, Florence Pretz, an art teacher and illustrator in Kansas City, Mo., received a patent for her version of an ancient Asian figure – a chubby character with pixie ears, fat cheeks and an ear-to-ear grin. A year later, the Billiken Company of Chicago adopted the likeness, giving it its name. Initially manufactured as a bank and statuette, the Billiken reached its peak of popularity in 1911, when it was widely recognized as a universal symbol of good fortune.

How the name became associated with Saint Louis University remains a hotly debated issue. Whatever version you accept, it happened between 1910 and 1911 at the height of Billikenmania.

The generally accepted version of the story can be traced back to two St. Louis sportswriters who felt the SLU football coach, John Bender, bore a striking resemblance to

the impish creature. William O'Connor and Charles Z. McNamara noticed the similarity one afternoon at practice as Bender was especially satisfied with his team's performance. Looking at the coach and his broad grin and squinty eyes, O'Connor exclaimed, "Why Bender's a regular Billiken!"

After practice, McNamara drew a cartoon of Bender as a Billiken, posted it in a local drugstore window and tabbed the football team "Bender's Billikens." The sporting public took up the name with such enthusiasm that it soon became the official nickname of all SLU teams.

Legend has it that the Billiken has three kinds of luck – good, better and best. To buy a Billiken gives the buyer good luck. To have one given to you is better luck. The best luck comes if the Billiken is stolen.



TM

2015 STATS

2015 @SLU_Volleyball Saint Louis Combined Team Statistics (as of Jul 28, 2016) All matches

Overall record: 22-10 Conf: 10-4 Home: 12-5 Away: 7-2 Neutral: 3-3

#	Player	sp	Attack				Set		Serve			Dig			Blocking					points		
			k	k/s	e	ta	pct	a	a/s	sa	se	sa/s	re	dig	dig/s	bs	ba	total	blk/s		be	bhe
4	RYGELSKI, Danielle	116	492	4.24	182	1226	.253	26	0.22	59	70	0.51	41	278	2.40	11	56	67	0.58	12	0	590.0
13	OKORO, Nenyne	100	236	2.36	128	691	.156	20	0.20	12	31	0.12	22	305	3.05	2	41	43	0.43	10	2	270.5
6	GILBERT, Megan	103	224	2.17	62	466	.348	10	0.10	4	6	0.04	1	69	0.67	8	98	106	1.03	7	2	285.0
16	PAULSON, Taylor	117	251	2.15	70	511	.354	9	0.08	2	4	0.02	2	31	0.26	10	99	109	0.93	16	0	312.5
15	LEVERENZ, Lauren	78	121	1.55	55	302	.219	7	0.09	14	21	0.18	2	68	0.87	1	30	31	0.40	7	3	151.0
14	LOFTUS, Monica	73	82	1.12	36	213	.216	4	0.05	0	0	0.00	1	16	0.22	0	41	41	0.56	9	0	102.5
5	SNIFFEN, Nicole	18	17	0.94	4	36	.361	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	4	0.22	1	16	17	0.94	2	1	26.0
10	EJELE, Maryann	11	8	0.73	7	24	.042	1	0.09	0	0	0.00	0	3	0.27	0	9	9	0.82	1	0	12.5
11	BOE, Meredith	120	72	0.60	19	191	.277	1234	10.28	25	23	0.21	0	167	1.39	0	61	61	0.51	4	14	127.5
12	GANDALL, Josie	80	40	0.50	20	124	.161	4	0.05	9	26	0.11	7	55	0.69	1	6	7	0.09	1	1	53.0
8	HAAK, Katia	65	17	0.26	9	54	.148	13	0.20	5	14	0.08	10	81	1.25	0	3	3	0.05	0	0	23.5
7	RIVAS, Camilla	10	2	0.20	1	6	.167	19	1.90	0	0	0.00	0	3	0.30	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	2.0
3	LONG, Mackenzie	120	1	0.01	3	12	-.167	89	0.74	39	30	0.32	31	394	3.28	0	1	1	0.01	0	0	40.5
1	GAGEN, Ashley	73	0	0.00	0	0	.000	4	0.05	8	14	0.11	0	69	0.95	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	8.0
2	BACKUS, Jenny	12	0	0.00	0	0	.000	1	0.08	2	0	0.17	0	2	0.17	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	2.0
17	OH, Maddie	55	0	0.00	0	0	.000	4	0.07	6	11	0.11	1	44	0.80	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	6.0
SAINT LOUIS		120	1563	13.02	596	3856	.251	1445	12.04	185	250	1.54	130	1589	13.24	34	461	264.5	2.20	69	23	2012.5
Opponents		120	1398	11.65	676	3957	.182	1322	11.02	130	221	1.08	185	1511	12.59	65	369	249.5	2.08	45	43	1777.5

Team Statistics	SLU	OPP
ATTACK		
Kills	1563	1398
Errors	596	676
Total Attacks	3856	3957
Attack Pct	.251	.182
Kills/Set	13.0	11.6
SET		
Assists	1445	1322
Attempts	3811	3950
Assist Pct	.379	.335
Assists/Set	12.0	11.0
SERVE		
Aces	185	130
Errors	250	221
Attempts	2726	2438
Serve Pct	.908	.909
Aces/Set	1.5	1.1
SERVE RECEPTIONS		
Errors	130	185
Errors/Set	1.1	1.5
Attempts	2212	2473
Reception Pct	.941	.925
DEFENSE		
Digs	1589	1511
Digs/Set	13.2	12.6
BLOCKING		
Block Solo	34	65
Block Assist	461	369
Total Blocks	264.5	249.5
Blocks/Set	2.2	2.1
Block Errors	69	45
Ball handling errors	23	43
ATTENDANCE		
Total	6735	3156

Date	Opponent	Score	Score by set	Att.
Aug 28	vs Missouri-Kansas City	L 2-3	25-17,22-25,21-25,25-21,13-15	0
Aug 28	at Southeast Missouri	w 3-1	20-25,25-19,25-19,25-22	319
Aug 29	vs Arkansas State	L 0-3	10-25,22-25,26-28	105
Aug 31	NORTH DAKOTA STATE	L 1-3	25-22,23-25,23-25,22-25	263
Sep 04	#12 BYU	L 0-3	17-25,11-25,14-25	862
Sep 05	ARKANSAS-PINE BLUFF	w 3-0	25-16,25-12,25-11	0
Sep 05	#24 PURDUE	L 1-3	23-25,18-25,25-23,22-25	458
Sep 08	WESTERN ILLINOIS	w 3-0	25-20,25-17,25-17	307
Sep 11	vs Virginia	w 3-2	22-25,14-25,25-19,25-18,15-9	0
Sep 11	at Alabama	w 3-2	19-25,24-26,25-20,25-21,17-15	1019
Sep 12	vs Troy	w 3-0	25-10,25-19,25-16	0
Sep 18	ARKANSAS-PINE BLUFF	w 3-0	25-10,25-10,25-15	107
Sep 18	NORTH DAKOTA	w 3-1	21-25,25-18,25-19,25-12	704
Sep 19	UT MARTIN	w 3-0	25-22,28-26,25-15	105
Sep 19	USC UPSTATE	w 3-0	25-18,25-20,25-21	164
Sep 23	MISSOURI	w 3-0	25-16,25-22,25-19	809
*Sep 25	at La Salle	w 3-1	23-25,25-21,25-12,25-19	53
*09/27/15	at Duquesne	w 3-1	20-25,25-18,25-18,25-21	117
*Oct 02	RHODE ISLAND	w 3-2	21-25,21-25,26-24,25-22,17-15	334
*Oct 04	FORDHAM	w 3-0	25-20,25-15,25-10	347
*Oct 09	at George Washington	w 3-2	25-16,25-15,24-26,25-27,15-13	261
*Oct 10	at MASON	w 3-0	25-15,25-16,25-19	310
*Oct 16	VCU	L 2-3	23-25,23-25,25-22,25-23,14-16	314
*Oct 18	DAVIDSON	w 3-1	23-25,25-14,25-13,25-21	340
*10/24/15	at Dayton	L 1-3	22-25,25-16,21-25,15-25	823
*Oct 30	at Fordham	w 3-0	25-22,25-13,25-23	144
*Oct 31	at Rhode Island	L 2-3	26-24,15-25,25-22,18-25,8-15	110
*Nov 06	GEORGE MASON	w 3-1	25-17,18-25,25-19,25-13	463
*Nov 08	GEORGE WASHINGTON	w 3-0	25-21,28-26,25-20	324
*Nov 14	DAYTON	L 1-3	22-25,25-19,23-25,17-25	834
Nov 21	vs Rhode Island	w 3-0	25-10,25-18,25-17	195
Nov 22	vs Dayton	L 0-3	19-25,23-25,20-25	210

Record in 3-set matches:12-3 • Record in 4-set matches:6-4 • Record in 5-set matches:4-3