

# ARKANSAS TECH UNIVERSITY

***ATHLETICS***

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## **GOLDEN SUNS FINISH 3-0 IN ITS OWN INVITATIONAL AFTER POSTING THREE-SET WIN OVER SOUTHEASTERN OKLAHOMA**

**RUSSELLVILLE, Arkansas** – The Arkansas Tech Golden Sun Volleyball team won in straight sets against Southeastern Oklahoma in its final match of the Arkansas Tech Invitational here Saturday at Tucker Coliseum. Tech won the match 25-22, 25-10 and 25-17.

Tech, who improved to 24-3 overall on the season, won all three of its matches in the two-day tournament, as they defeated East Central [OK] in five sets and West Alabama in four sets on Friday on the tournament's first day. With the win, Tech has now won nine straight matches since losing to the SE Oklahoma in Durant, Okla., on Oct. 2.

"This was big regional tournament for us and it was very important for us to have a good week and our performance this week will help us down the road," Golden Suns Head Volleyball Coach **Kristy Bayer** said.

Senior outside hitter **Racheal Urquhart** (Chatham, Ont.) led the Golden Suns with 11 kills and a .346 hitting percentage against the Savage Storm. For the tournament, Urquhart had 44 kills, 26 digs, seven service aces and hit .422. For her efforts, she was named the tournament's Most Valuable Player. In Friday's match against East Central, Urquhart broke Tech's career school records for kills and digs.

"Racheal stepped up and had a big tournament for us, obviously a record-setting day yesterday, and she was major leader for us this weekend," Bayer added.

Sophomore middle blocker **Sarah Von Lienen** (Lakeland, Tenn.), middle blocker **Dana Florian** (Wilmington, Ill) and sophomore right side hitter **Ashlynn Hamrick** (Jackson, Mich.) each had eight kills against SE Oklahoma. Von Lienen hit .500, while Florian had three blocks, and Hamrick added five assists. In addition to Urquhart, Hamrick was the other Golden Sun named to the All-Tournament team as she recorded 28 kills and hit .404 in Tech's three matches.

Joining Urquhart and Hamrick on the All-Tournament were SE Oklahoma's Lindsay Ellisor, Arkansas-Monticello's Meagan Martin and West Alabama teammates, Allison Nail and Gabriella Pedrosa.

For the match, Tech hit .339 and held the Savage Storm to a .148 hitting percentage. In addition, Tech collected nine service aces, with Urquhart recording four and Florian having three aces in the match.

Senior setter **Kayla Allison** (Tulsa, Okla.) led the team with 40 assists and had 10 digs, while sophomore setter **Kera Dukic** (White Lake, Mich.) and freshman

outside hitter **Marcella Mascarenhas** (Sao Paulo, Brazil) each had 10 digs in the win.

The Savage Storm (16-10 on the season) was paced by nine kills from Lunden Azuara, while Destiny Brown recorded eight kills in the loss.

In addition, to the three wins in this weekend's tournament, Bayer's squad also picked up road conference victories against Ouachita Baptist and Henderson State this week.

"I think we had a solid week of volleyball," Bayer said. "It is tough to win five matches in a week this time of the year, in the middle of the season. I was pleased with our focus this week."

Tech will return to Gulf South Conference action when they host Southern Arkansas University on Tuesday, Oct. 21, at Tucker Coliseum. Tech collected a three-set win over the Lady Muleriders in Magnolia, Ark., on Sept. 25.

**-- Tech Athletics --**