

2023 OAC VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT

**#3 UNIV. OF MOUNT UNION
PURPLE RAIDERS**



(20-7, 6-3 OAC)

VS.

**#1 OTTERBEIN UNIVERSITY
CARDINALS**



(22-8, 9-0 OAC)

RIKE CENTER - WESTERVILLE, OHIO (November 11 , 2023)

CHAMPIONSHIP PREVIEW:

Otterbein and Mount Union square up with a spot in the NCAA Division III Championships on the line, as the winner today will receive the league's automatic bid to compete in the national bracket.

The Cardinals are looking to defend their 2022 OAC Tournament crown, while the Purple Raiders are seeking their first title since back in 2014.

Otterbein swept through the OAC regular season, and then overcame some early adversity (including a free point to the opposition) in the first set on Thursday to blank #4 seed Ohio Northern in its semifinal round. The Cards prevailed 27-25, 25-22, 25-19 behind 14 kills from Kennedy Hoffman and 21 digs from Libero of the Year Amanda Troyer.

Mount Union stormed back to erase a 2-0 deficit in a raucous semifinal at Marietta, completely flipping the script to win 20-25, 26-28, 25-18, 25-18, 15-12. The offensive trio of Darby Leininger, Heaven Bartell and Ava Bolen combined for 40 kills. Bartell added a whopping 29 digs for an impressive double-double.

In addition to Troyer, senior Morgan Hartman was recently named OAC Player of the Year while Monica Wright earned her third Coach of the Year honor. Bartell became a 3x All-OAC first team selection for the Raiders and was joined on the top squad by Averi Haley.

These two schools last met on October 27 here in the Rike Center... with Otterbein winning by counts of 25-21, 25-15, 25-16. That marks the only blemish over the past seven matches for Mount Union.

Hartman led everyone with 17 kills the last time out vs. the Purple Raiders and currently stands with 1,450 for her storied career. Otterbein has won six-straight matches in this series between the schools.

Both of these teams are ranked in the region, but the loser today will need to hope/wait for a potential at-large bid to the Big Dance. The NCAA Selectio Show is scheduled for Monday.

OTTERBEIN Roster

No.	Name	Yr.	Pos.	Ht.	Hometown / High School
1	Rylee Ritzhaupt	Fr.	OH	5-9	Bucyrus / Colonel Crawford
2	Emma Steiger	Fr.	OH	5-7	Bucyrus / Wynford
3	Kira Appeman	So.	DS	5-8	Milan / Edison
4	Kristen Scherger	Jr.	MH	5-11	Findlay / Findlay
5	Aubrey Geis	Jr.	MB	5-10	Clearwater, Fla. / Central Catholic
6	Maddie Mergen	So.	OH	6-0	Sylvania / Notre Dame Academy
7	Olivia Krill	Fr.	MH	6-0	Whitelake, Mich. / Lakeland
8	Kennedy Hoffman	Jr.	OH	5-11	Seymour, Ind. / Trinity Lutheran
9	Annie Casper	So.	MB	5-11	Morrow / Little Miami
10	Brooke Barb	So.	OH	5-10	Johnstown / Johnstown-Monroe
11	Emily Skelley	So.	DS	5-8	Urbana / Urbana
12	Olivia Vitaz	So.	S/RS	5-10	Milan / Edison
13	Kayla Lechnir	So.	OH	5-11	Dayton / Carroll
14	Madison McCoy	Sr.	MH	5-11	Wooster / Wooster
15	Kailey Mishler	Sr.	S	5-8	Columbus / Gahanna Lincoln
16	Grace Ganz	So.	DS	5-5	Powell / Olentangy Liberty
17	Amanda Troyer	Jr.	DS	5-5	Berlin / Hiland
18	Olivia Jurcevic	So.	DS	5-6	Chardon / Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin
19	Lexi Scott	Fr.	OH	5-11	Chillicothe / Zane Trace
20	Bailee Toadvine	Fr.	DS	5-2	Athens / Athens
21	Makenzie Schellenberger	Fr.	OH	5-9	Medina / Medina
22	Anna Cecil	Sr.	OH	5-11	Lewis Center / Olentangy
23	Hope Cuppett	Jr.	OH	6-2	Cuyahoga Falls / Cuyahoga Falls
30	Morgan Hartman	Sr.	OH	5-10	Lancaster / Fairfield Union



COACHING STAFF:

Head Coach: Monica Wright (17th season)

Assistant Coaches: Heather Bailes, Leslie Davenport, Max Miller, Tasia Lauth

MOUNT UNION Roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Yr.	Ht.	Hometown / High School
1	Ava Bolen	MH	Fr.	6-2	Wellsburg, W. Va. / Brooke
2	Kalie Campbell	DS	Fr.	5-6	Wooster / Triway
3	Casey Kildow	S	Jr.	5-7	Bethesda / Union Local
4	Adrian Petrisko	DS	Sr.	5-6	Elyria / Elyria
5	Alexis Meyer	MH	Jr.	6-0	Avon Lake / Avon Lake
6	Sadie Thomas	OH	Fr.	5-10	Cambridge Springs, Pa. / Maplewood
7	Allie Gunn	S	So.	5-9	Olmsted Falls / Magnificat
8	Lanie Schultz	DS	Fr.	5-4	South Park Township, Pa. / South Park
9	Heaven Bartell	OH	Jr.	5-10	Cleveland / St. Joseph Academy
10	Averi Haley	L	Fr.	5-9	Orrville / Orrville
11	Riley Meister	RS	Fr.	5-9	Madison / Madison
12	Sydney Mercer	OH	So.	5-7	Salem / West Branch
13	Abby DeGeorge	DS	Fr.	5-4	Uniontown / Lake
14	Maddie Wentz	OH	Sr.	5-8	Broadview Heights / Akron Hoban
15	Jordin Kauffman	MH	So.	5-11	Avon / Avon
16	Katelyn Lesko	DS	Jr.	5-6	Mineral Ridge / Mineral Ridge
17	Melissa Hansen	S	Fr.	5-8	Hudson / Hudson
18	Darby Leininger	OH	Jr.	5-10	Chardon / Beaumont
19	Ryann Kanable	OH	So.	5-8	Powell / Olentangy Liberty
20	Anna English	S	Fr.	6-0	Mentor / Mentor
21	Jaclyn Scherb	DS	Jr.	5-4	Carmel, Ind. / Carmel
22	Katie Guerra	DS	Sr.	5-6	Avon Lake / Avon Lake
23	Lily Stark	RS	So.	5-11	New Albany / New Albany
24	Avery Ollinger	OH	Fr.	5-9	Erie, Pa. / Mercyhurst Prep
25	Molly McKee	MH	Fr.	5-10	North Ridgeville / North Ridgeville



COACHING STAFF:

Head Coach: Melissa Mahnke-Morrison (9th Season)

Assistant Coaches: Brittany Woodard, Maria Ellesin, Natalie Maiorana, Casey Kropka