

2023 OAC VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT

**#4 OHIO NORTHERN UNIV.
POLAR BEARS**



(17-9, 5-4 OAC)

VS.

**#1 OTTERBEIN UNIVERSITY
CARDINALS**



(21-8, 9-0 OAC)

RIKE CENTER - WESTERVILLE, OHIO (November 9 , 2023)

SEMIFINAL PREVIEW:

Otterbein repeated as OAC regular-season champions by sweeping through the league, going a perfect 9-0 on the slate and only dropping two sets overall. The Cards have won 14 of 15 coming in and received a quarterfinal bye on Tuesday.

Morgan Hartman (Player of the Year), Amanda Troyer (Libero of the Year) and Monica Wright (Coach of the Year) led an entire handful of Cardinals on the 2023 All-OAC Teams earlier this week. Hartman gives Otterbein five of the last seven Players of the Year, Troyer is the first to earn LOY since Hall of Famer Lindsey Russell back in 2017, and Wright is now a 3x recipient from her peers.

Madison McCoy and Kennedy Hoffman landed second team All-OAC while setter Olivia Vitaz warranted honorable mention status. Otterbein is striving to make a fourth-straight appearances in the NCAA's later this month.

Ohio Northern eliminated John Carroll in four sets Tuesday night by scores of 25-21, 12-25, 25-20, 25-22 to extend its season. Erin Wagner, a recent first team All-OAC pick, ripped off 19 kills to lead that charge.

The Polar Bears are hoping to get even with Otterbein after getting swept on their home court in the regular season by counts of 25-16, 25-20, 25-18.

Rachel Jennings, Lauren James and Sonia Dahlin all received All-OAC status as well earlier this week for an ONU team that has won five of its last seven matches.

These schools last met in the postseason during the 2021 OAC Tournament Final, in what became an absolute thriller. The Cards saw a handful of match points in the fourth before Ohio Northern survived and went on to win the fifth set.

That day above, ironically also November 9, saw final scores of 21-25, 25-23, 23-25, 27-25, 16-14 in ONU's favor. The winner of this match tonight will play the winner of Marietta/Mount Union in the other semifinal.

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

OHIO NORTHERN Roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Yr.	Ht.	Hometown / High School
1	Elizabeth Barbara	DS	So.	5-2	Foothill Ranch, Calif. / Trabuco Hills
3	Grace Conrad	S	Jr.	5-6	Somerset / Sheridan
5	Kate Zellers	RS	Fr.	5-9	Monroeville, Ind. / Heritage
7	Chelsea May	MH	So.	6-1	Findlay / Liberty-Benton
8	Rachel Jennings	DS	Jr.	5-10	Novi, Mich. / Novi
11	Kassie Bowmar	MH	Sr.	5-10	Sunbury / Big Walnut
12	Kaidie Carstensen	OH	Sr.	5-8	Raymond / Fairbanks
13	Jenna Breiningner	RS	Fr.	5-10	Germansville, Pa. / Northwestern Lehigh
14	Ava Ehlinger	OH	Sr.	5-10	New Carlisle / Tecumseh
15	Jocelyn Obszarski	MB	Fr.	6-1	Cincinnati / Marcy McAuley
16	Erin Wagner	RS	Jr.	6-1	Massillon / Perry
17	Rylee Dundon	OH	Fr.	5-11	Marysville / Marysville
18	Mia Lawrence	OH	Fr.	5-9	Cincinnati / Saint Ursula
19	Rylee Haberland	DS	Fr.	5-4	Temperance, Mich. / Beford
20	Grace Irmer	DS	Sr.	5-5	Indianapolis, Ind. / Roncalli
22	Lauren James	MH	Jr.	5-11	Farmington Hills, Mich. / North Farmington
23	Sonia Dahlin	MH	Jr.	5-10	Minnetonka, Minn. / Minnetonka
24	Katie Floyd	OH	Fr.	5-9	Swanton / Swanton
25	Caroline Hensley	S	So.	5-8	Loveland / Bishop Fenwick
26	Katherine Donahue	MB	Fr.	6-0	Powell / Olentangy Orange
27	Olivia Baumann	OH	Fr.	5-9	Eaton / Eaton
30	Kendra Ackerman	DS	Jr.	5-4	New Washington / Buckeye Central



COACHING STAFF:

Head Coach: Sophie Windover (1st Season)

Assistant Coaches: Katie Kidwell, Lynsey Trusty