Team 55

• This is the 55th team in program history.
• The Buckeyes begin the fifth season under the direction of Head Coach Jen Flynn Oldenburg.
• Graduate Students: Emily Londot and Rylee Rader have both previously been named AVCA All-Americans and bring a wealth of on-court experience to the team, including multiple NCAA Regional Semifinals berths and an NCAA Regional Final appearance in 2022. Both are ranked highly in multiple career records categories among the Buckeyes’ all-time leaders.
• Seniors: Sydney Taylor (see page 4, in attendance today) and Meghan McCann each have three years in the Buckeyes’ system. This is Taylor’s third season serving as a team captain.
• Juniors: Kamiah Gibson and Zaria Ragler were each used as reserves last season.
• Transfer: Junior Ella Wrobel joins the Buckeyes after spending the last two seasons at Wisconsin, seeing the court only in 2022. Wrobel began at Ohio State in January.
• Sophomores: Mia Tuman (see page 5, in attendance today), Lauren Murphy, Kaitlyn Hoffman, Grace Egan and Eloise Brandewie return after having one season under their belts in 2023. All were seeing significant playing time as freshmen before Egan and Hoffman’s seasons were plagued with injuries.
• Freshmen: Ohio State adds six freshmen to its ranks as the No. 2-rated recruiting class in the country. Ava Shankle, Olivia Hasbrook, Emmi Sellman, Reese Wuebker, Abby Yoder and Kaia Castle join the Buckeyes for the 2024 season. Sellman, Wuebker and Castle began early at OSU in January.

Scarlet Out the Schott

• Ohio State will play at the Schottenstein Center for the first time in program history this fall when the Buckeyes host Michigan on Sunday, Oct. 13.

All-Big Ten Preseason Team

• Graduate student Emily Londot was named to the Preseason All-Big Ten Team for the fourth time in her career last week.
• She led the Big Ten in both kills/set (5.06) and points/set (5.51) in 2023, ranking fourth and sixth in the nation, respectively. Londot was named AVCA Northeast All-Region for the fourth time and was a unanimous pick for the All-Big Ten First Team.

Buckeye Nation’s Support

• The Ohio State fans continue to support Oldenburg’s squad, breaking the program’s season attendance record in 2023.
• Ohio State averaged 3,103 people in attendance per match last season, eclipsing 3,000 for the first time in program history. The Buckeyes averaged 3,504 at the Covelli Center last season.
• The past three seasons are first, second and third in the program’s all-time attendance averages.

Buckeyes’ 2024 Opponents

• Ohio State will face 12 teams who played in the 2023 NCAA Tournament, seven of which are Big Ten teams this season.
• Nebraska was the NCAA runner-up and Wisconsin was in the Final Four. Oregon (finals), Penn State and Purdue all made it to regional sites.
• Other 2023 NCAA Tournament teams on OSU’s schedule include Northern Iowa, Dayton, Florida, Miami (FL), Wright State, USC and Minnesota.
Jen Flynn Oldenburg

Head Coach
Fifth Season
Ohio State ‘01

Jen Flynn Oldenburg, a former four-year standout for the Buckeyes, returned to Columbus as the head coach of the Ohio State women’s volleyball program on Jan. 17, 2020. Oldenburg is the sixth head coach in Buckeyes’ program history.

Ohio State finished 11-18 overall and 8-12 in conference play in 2023 with mostly new pieces. Notable returners included former All-Americans Emily Londot and Rylee Rader. Londot moved all the way up to fourth in program history in both career kills and points during the 2023 season, leading the Big Ten and ranking in the top-6 nationally in both kills/set (5.06) and points/set (5.51). She was named to the AVCA All-Region Team, CSC Academic All-American Second Team and was a unanimous choice for All-Big Ten First Team.

Rader was named All-Big Ten Second Team despite missing the last few weeks of the season. Mia Tuman started most of the season at setter, despite being a freshman, and moved up to 19th in program history in career assists after ranking fifth in the Big Ten in assists/set (9.53) during the season. The Buckeyes had seven named Academic All-Big Ten following the conclusion of the season.

In 2022, Oldenburg took the veteran group to the NCAA Elite Eight for the fourth time in program history and first time since the 2004 season, finishing with a 22-10 overall record amidst one of the toughest schedules in the country. The Buckeyes finished 15-5 in conference play, earned nine ranked wins and strung together a 14-match win streak. For the first time in program history, Ohio State was ranked in the AVCA top-10 for the entire season, out-doing its previous record set in 2021. The Buckeyes also won three-consecutive matches against top-10 opponents for the first time in program history.

Also for the first time in program history, the Buckeyes had the Big Ten Defensive Player of the Year (Kylie Murr) and the Big Ten Setter of the Year (Mac Podraza). Emily Londot joined Podraza on the AVCA All-American Second Team, while Murr received an honorable mention. The trio was also named AVCA All-Region and All-Big Ten First Team, with Londot earning AVCA Northeast Region Player of the Year and Gabby Gonzales getting an all-region honorable mention. Gonzales and Rylee Rader were named All-Big Ten Second Team. For their efforts in the classroom, 11 Buckeyes were named Academic All-Big Ten.

Oldenburg led the program to its second-consecutive NCAA Sweet 16 appearance in the fall of 2021 after hosting the first two rounds of the NCAA Tournament in Columbus for the first time since 2015 and the first time ever in the Covelli Center. This was the 18th regional appearance in program history. The Buckeyes concluded the season with a 27-6 record and a 15-5 mark in Big Ten matches, earning five ranked wins and concluding the regular season on a seven-match win streak. Ohio State spent 14-consecutive weeks in the AVCA top-10, which is a program record, with the previous record being 10-straight weeks in the top-10 in 2004.

Ohio State had plenty of postseason awards and honors to show for a successful fall...
2021 season. Rylee Rader was named AVCA All-American Second Team, while Mac Podraza made the third team and Emily Londot received an honorable mention. For the second-consecutive season, the Buckeyes had the AVCA Regional Freshman of the Year, while Londot, Podraza and Rader were all on the AVCA All-Region list and Kylie Murr was an honorable mention. Murr and Podraza also were selected to the 2022 Women’s Collegiate National Team. The Buckeyes had two on the All-Big Ten First Team, one on the second team and one on the freshmen team. On the academic side, 15 student-athletes were named Ohio State Scholar Athletes and 13 were named Academic All-Big Ten following the 2021-22 school year.

Though the Buckeyes’ first season with Oldenburg as head coach was moved to the spring of 2021 and shortened because of the pandemic, Ohio State enjoyed much success. The Buckeyes won their first 12 matches of the season and finished 16-4 overall, reaching the Sweet 16. Oldenburg was named Big Ten Coach of the Year.

Oldenburg graduated from Ohio State in 2001 with a bachelor’s degree in sport and leisure studies and spent the 2001 season on staff as a volunteer assistant coach for the Buckeyes. During her time on the court from 1996-99, she recorded 3,213 career assists (7th) and 1,138 digs (12th) to secure her place in the program’s history book. She handed out 1,587 assists during the 1997 campaign to check in at No. 4 among OSU’s single-season leaders.

Oldenburg led Ohio State to four consecutive NCAA Tournament appearances and was the first conference player to be named All-Big Ten at two different positions (setter and outside hitter). In the classroom, she received OSU Scholar-Athlete laurels every year and was a three-time Academic All-Big Ten honoree.

Following her undergraduate career, Oldenburg went on to be the starting setter for the USA National Team and led the squad to a silver medal at the 2002 World Championship. She also started for the Grand Rapids Force (USPV) and played on the USPV “Dream Team,” starting at setter for the Millennium Cup Champion USPV All-Stars, where she was named to the all-tournament team.

The Pittsburgh, Pa., native is coming back to the Buckeye State after spending six years as the club/associate director of the Pittsburgh Elite Volleyball Association. She was responsible for the day-to-day operations of the club, handled recruitment for potential collegiate athletes and worked as a private lessons instructor.

Oldenburg returned to her Buckeye roots in 2019 when she joined former Ohio State head coach Jim Stone’s staff as an assistant coach for the USA Volleyball Girls Youth National Team. She helped coach the U18 team to a world championship title in Cairo, Egypt, securing the first gold medal for a U.S. age-group team at that event.

Prior to her time in Pittsburgh, Oldenburg spent nine seasons (2003-12) at the University of Illinois as an assistant coach for the women’s volleyball team. She had a hand in all aspects of the program during her tenure, focusing on recruiting, on-court training, travel and summer camps while serving as a liaison for multiple entities throughout the athletics department. Her work with the team’s serving and passing as well as the defensive specialists was instrumental in leading the Illini to four-straight NCAA Sweet Sixteen appearances and the NCAA runner-up finish in 2011. Five of her players earned All-America honors and nine different players have received 13 first team All-Big Ten honors.

Oldenburg and her husband, Steve, have two children – Maverick and Kassidy.
Sydney Taylor
Senior
Defensive Specialist
Clintonville, Ohio

CAREER HONORS
• OSU Scholar Athlete (2021, 22, 23)
• Academic All-Big Ten (2022, 23)

YEAR-BY-YEAR
2023 (Junior)
• Played in 101 sets
• Fourth on the team in digs (215), also averaging 2.13 dig/set
• Totaled a career-high 11 kills, including a career-high four kills in the match at Iowa (9/24)
• Recorded 12 service aces and 35 assists
• Totaled a career-high 19 digs against Georgia Tech (9/2)
• Had a career-high four assists on three occasions
• Totaled a career-high 5.0 points against Penn State (11/24)
• Nine matches with 10+ digs

2022 (Sophomore)
• Played in eight matches and 16 sets
• Recorded a career-high 15 digs against Indiana (11/20)
• Had her first collegiate match with more than one service ace at Iowa (9/23)
• Posted career-highs in aces per set (.250), digs per set (1.06) and points per set (.250)

2021 (Freshman)
• Played in 21 matches and 43 sets as a true freshman
• Totaled 45 digs on the season, averaging more than one per set
• Also tallied six aces and seven assists
• Had a career-high 11 digs in the four-set win against Iowa (11/19)
• Saw playing time in the NCAA Tournament first-round sweep against Howard (12/3)

PRIOR TO OHIO STATE
• Four-year letterwinner at Bishop Watterson
• Three-time district champion
• Holds the record for career digs at Bishop Watterson
• Named an Under Armor All-American, All-State and District Co-Player of the Year in 2020
• Reached the Ohio Final Four in 2020 after earning a regional championship
• Played club for Mintonette and also spent time on the USA Girl's Youth National Team
• Named MVP as Mintonette won the AAU 17P National Championship in 2019
• Named All-Tournament after winning the USAV 16N National Championship
• Was a member of the National Honors Society

PERSONAL INFO
• Daughter of John and Susan Taylor
• Has two brothers, Brady and Riley
• Her mother played volleyball and her father played football at Ohio University
• Her brother, Brady, won a national championship with Ohio State
• Business major
Mia Tuman
Sophomore
Setter
Sewickley, Pa.

CAREER HONORS
• Big Ten Setter of the Week (8/28/23)
• Big Ten Co-Freshman of the Week (11/6/23)
• 2023 NKU All-Tournament Team
• Ranks 16th in program history in career assists after her freshman season (963)
• 2023 OSU Scholar Athlete

YEAR-BY-YEAR
2023 (Freshman)
• Ranked fifth in the Big Ten in assists/set (9.53) to lead the team
• Played in 101 sets
• Third on the team with 230 digs, averaging 2.28 digs/set
• 10 double-doubles
• Also totaled 29 kills, 21 blocks and 12 service aces on the season
• Recorded a season-high 56 assists against Indiana (11/4)
• Totaled a season-high 17 digs at Texas (9/14)
• Season-high four kills against

BGSU (8/26)
• Had a season-high four blocks and 6.5 points at Penn State (10/7)

PRIOR TO OHIO STATE
• Lettered for four years as the setter at North Allegheny, helping the program to win four-consecutive state championships and being named MVP of the championships in her sophomore, junior, and senior seasons before enrolling early for the spring 2023 semester at Ohio State
• Named Gatorade Player of the Year both her junior and senior years, Post Gazette Player of the Year, North Allegheny’s Athlete of the Year, Wright Automotive Player, and earned her spot on the all-league, all-section and all-state teams during her high school career
• Spent eight years as the setter at Pitt Elite
• Member of the USA Youth National Training Team
• Prep Volleyball Watch List and ranked 33rd among Prep Volleyball’s Top 150
• Also lettered for three years in basketball and one year in track & field
• Helped lead the school to two basketball league championships and a state championship
• Broke a school record in track & field, winning the league championship and finishing fifth in the state

PERSONAL INFO
• Daughter of Molly and Jerame Tuman
• Has three siblings, Canyon, Avery and Makenna
• Sport Industry major
• Captained the TigerThon club that fundraised for pediatric cancer
• Took nine honors courses and AP psychology in high school