

2026 SCHEDULE (6-3, 0-0 BIG 12)

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME (ET) / RESULT
Aug. 28	at Illinois	W, 3-2
Aug. 29	vs. Syracuse	W, 3-0
SEPT. 1	SANTA CLARA	L, 0-3
Sept. 4	vs. Valparaiso%	W, 3-0
Sept. 5	vs. Michigan%	L, 0-3
Sept. 6	vs. Oakland%	W, 3-0
Sept. 10	at Morehead St.	W, 3-0
Sept. 11	vs. Michigan St.	L, 0-3
SEPT. 15	BALL ST.	W, 3-0
Sept. 18	at Xavier	6 p.m.
SEPT. 25	#13 TCU*	6:30 p.m.
SEPT. 27	#12 ARIZONA ST.*	1 p.m.
Oct. 2	at Houston*	7:30 p.m.
Oct. 9	at UCF*	6 p.m.
OCT. 11	IOWA ST.*	1 p.m.
Oct. 16	at West Virginia*	6 p.m.
OCT. 22	KANSAS STATE*	6:30 p.m.
OCT. 25	ARIZONA*	12 p.m.
Oct. 29	at #17 Colorado*	9 p.m.
NOV. 1	WEST VIRGINIA*	1 p.m.
Nov. 6	at Kansas State*	6 p.m.
Nov. 8	at #22 Kansas*	2 p.m.
NOV. 13	UCF*	6:30 p.m.
Nov. 16	at Iowa St.*	7:30 p.m.
Nov. 19	at Utah*	9 p.m.
Nov. 21	at #24 BYU*	3 p.m.
NOV. 25	TEXAS TECH*	12 p.m.
NOV. 27	#18 BAYLOR*	1 p.m.

* - Big 12 Conference match; % Popcorn Classic
Home matches in **BOLD**; All times in ET

FOLLOW ALONG

TV: XAVIER+

LIVE STATS: Cincinnati.StatBroadcast.com

ATHLETICS COMMUNICATIONS

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CINCINNATI VOLLEYBALL



CINCINNATI BEARCATS (6-3, 0-0)

HEAD COACH: Danijela Tomić

RECORD AT UC: 21-16 (2nd season/.568)

OVERALL RECORD: 415-238 (22nd/.636)



XAVIER MUSKETEERS (6-3, 0-0)

HEAD COACH: Christy Pfeffenberger

RECORD AT XU: 171-155 (12th season/.525)

OVERALL RECORD: Same

CINCINNATI — The Cincinnati volleyball team (6-3) will make the short trip to Norwood to face Xavier (6-3) in the 43rd annual Queen City Classic, set for Friday at 6 p.m. inside the Cintas Center.

The match will stream on XAVIER+.

SERIES HISTORY

- Cincinnati leads the all-time series 29-14 over Xavier in the Queen City Classic. The teams met last season, when the Bearcats swept the Musketeers at Fifth Third Arena in front of 2,208 fans.

RECAPPING LAST MATCH

- Sydney Nolan led the way with 14 kills on a .375 clip as the University of Cincinnati volleyball team swept Ball State in straight sets on Tuesday night at Fifth Third Arena.
- Nina Scrucca was nearly unstoppable on an extremely efficient night, posting a career-best 13 kills on a .591 clip to go with three digs and two block assists. Izzy Busignani added 10 kills (.391) with five digs. Kate Lijic ran the offense with a match-high 41 assists, also serving up three aces. Libero Viktoria Ninova paced all players, tying a career-high with 18 digs.
- Cincinnati outthit Ball State 53 kills on a .435 clip, compared to 40 kills on .224 hitting for the Cardinals. The Bearcats also held a decisive advantage at the net, six team blocks to one, while Ball State edged the dig column, 44-43.

PERFORMING AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL

- Nolan and Lijic have been among the nation's best to start the season
- Nolan has two 20-plus-kill matches already:
 - » 25 kills in the reverse-sweep win over Illinois — second most in Big 12 five set match
 - » 23 kills against Michigan — most in Big 12 three set match
- Nolan ranks 18th nationally and fourth in the Big 12 in kills/set (4.30)
- Lijic ranks fifth nationally and first in the Big 12 in assists/set (11.48) and set her career high (54 assists) against Illinois

NEWCOMER IMPACT

- Cincinnati has received significant contributions from its newcomers, with juniors Kate Lijic and Andrea Simovski and freshman Viktoria Ninova and Nina Scrucca are making an immediate impact for the Bearcats.
- Lijic set a career high with 54 assists against Illinois and has totaled 30 or more assists eight of nine contests.
- Lijic ranks first in the Big 12, fifth in the nation in assists per set (11.48).
- Ninova leads Cincinnati in digs with 107 (3.69 D/S), she recorded 18 against Michigan and Ball State and has had 10 plus digs in six matches.
- Ninova ranks eighth in the Big 12 in digs per set.
- Simovski posted a double-double against Illinois with 13 kills and 13 digs.
- Scrucca leads UC in service aces (15) and is second in kills on the Bearcats with 76 (2.62 K/S).

LIJIC NAMED TO BIG 12 STARTING SEVEN

- Setter Kate Lijic was named to the Big 12 Starting Seven on Sept. 8 following a strong weekend at the Popcorn Classic
- She helped lead Bearcats to a 2-1, runner-up finish — sweeps over Valparaiso and Oakland — earning a spot on the All-Tournament team
- Tournament totals: 112 assists over three matches (nine sets), a 12.44 assists/set clip
 - » 42 assists in the sweep of Valparaiso
 - » 33 assists in the 0-3 loss to Michigan
 - » 37 assists in the sweep of Oakland

CINCINNATI DIGS DEEP

- Cincinnati ranks fifth in the Big 12 in digs per set with 13.86
- Ninova leads the team with 3.69 digs per set.
- The Bearcats recorded the most digs (59) in a three match set in the Big 12 this season against Michigan (9/5/26)

PINPOINT ACCURACY

- Cincinnati is averaging 2.10 aces per set, the best mark in the Big 12 and 22nd in the nation.
- The Bearcats recorded 12 aces against Illinois, the second most in a Big 12 match this season.
- Scrucca's recorded five aces against Illinois, which is the third most by a conference player in a match this season.
- Simovski added four aces against Syracuse.

EFFICIENT ATTACKING

- The Bearcats have the third highest team hitting percentage in the Big 12 at .280
- UC has three of the top 10 most efficient attacking matches in the conference
 - » .477 (42-8-76) against Illinois (8/29/26)
 - » .435 (53-6-108) against Ball St. (9/15/26)
 - » .387 (47-11-93) against Morehead St. (9/10/26)
- The Bearcats hit .447 against Syracuse, led by Simovski's 11 kills on .500 hitting.
- Freshman Nina Scrucca added nine kills on .368 hitting, while Sydney Nolan and Audrey Rome each had six kills. Lilian Entenmann added five kills while hitting .833.
- Nolan led three Bearcats with double-digit kills against Illinois, finishing with a match-high 25 kills on .345 hitting. Simovski added 13 kills (.344), while Scrucca had 11 (.409) and five aces.
- Against Ball State, Scrucca recorded 13 kills while hitting .591, marking the fifth-best single match hitting percentage in the Big 12

2026 CINCINNATI VOLLEYBALL



2026 ALPHABETICAL ROSTER

#	NAME	POS.	HT.	CL.
12	Malayna Boyles	OH	6-1	Fr.
16	Izzy Busignani	OH	6-1	So.
13	Kayla Edginton	RS/OH	6-2	Fr.
5	Lilian Entenmann	MB	6-1	Sr.
14	Julia Horan	MB	6-2	Fr.
9	Kayla Hostetler	L/DS	5-6	Sr.
1	Ava Ledebuhr	L/DS	5-8	So.
6	Kate Lijic	S	6-0	Jr.
15	Elliott Mickelberry	MB	6-2	So.
21	Viktoria Ninova	L	5-8	Fr.
2	Sydney Nolan	OH	6-4	Sr.
3	Lily Rolfes	S	5-9	Fr.
4	Audrey Rome	MB	6-3	5th
11	Nina Scrucca	OPP	6-0	Fr.
18	Tatjana Simeunović	MB	6-3	So.
7	Andrea Simovski	OH	6-1	Jr.
0	Andi Spies	S	5-10	Jr.
8	Ligia Williams	MB	5-11	5th

2026 NUMERICAL ROSTER

#	NAME	POS.	HT.	CL.	HOMETOWN / HIGH SCHOOL / LAST SCHOOL
0	Andi Spies	S	5-10	Jr.	Fort Atkinson, Wis. / Fort Atkinson / Middle Tennessee
1	Ava Ledebuhr	L/DS	5-8	So.	Naperville, Ill. / Benet Academy
2	Sydney Nolan	OH	6-4	Sr.	Florence, Ky. / Notre Dame Academy / UNC
3	Lily Rolfes	S	5-9	Fr.	Phoenix, Ariz. / Sunrise Mountain
4	Audrey Rome	MB	6-3	5th	Sandwich, Ill. / Sandwich / UConn
5	Lilian Entenmann	MB	6-1	Sr.	Columbus, Ohio / Upper Arlington
6	Kate Lijic	S	6-0	Jr.	Split, Croatia / Miami
7	Andrea Simovski	OH	6-1	Jr.	Belgrade, Serbia / Sixth Belgrade General / Utah State
8	Ligia Williams	MB	5-11	5th	Jeffersonville, Ind. / Rock Creek Academy
9	Kayla Hostetler	L/DS	5-6	Sr.	Hebron, Ky. / Notre Dame Academy
11	Nina Scrucca	OPP	6-0	Fr.	Neuchâtel, Switzerland / Lycée Jean-Piaget
12	Malayna Boyles	OH	6-1	Fr.	Lantana, Texas / Denton Guyer
13	Kayla Edginton	RS/OH	6-2	Fr.	Malvern, Pa. / Academy of Notre Dame de Namur
14	Julia Horan	MB	6-2	Fr.	Fairfax, Va. / Chantilly
15	Elliott Mickelberry	MB	6-2	So.	Lafayette, Colo. / Centaurus
16	Izzy Busignani	OH	6-1	So.	Rochester Hills, Mich. / Marian
18	Tatjana Simeunović	MB	6-3	So.	Čačak, Serbia / School of Economic
21	Viktoria Ninova	L	5-8	Fr.	Sofia, Bulgaria / 22nd Secondary School "G.S.Rakovski"

COACHING STAFF

Head Coach	Danijela Tomić	2nd Season at Cincinnati
Associate Head Coach	Zheng Xiang	2nd Season at Cincinnati
Associate Head Coach	Ali Cooke	2nd Season at Cincinnati
Assistant Coach	Sean Drexler	2nd Season at Cincinnati

ROSTER BY POSITION

OUTSIDE HITTER (4): Malayna Boyles, Izzy Busignani, Sydney Nolan, Andrea Simovski

SETTER (3): Kate Lijic, Lily Rolfes, Andi Spies

LIBERO (3): Kayla Hostetler, Ava Ledebuhr, Viktoria Ninova

MIDDLE BLOCKER (6): Lilian Entenmann, Julia Horan, Elliott Mickelberry, Audrey Rome, Tatjana Simeunović, Ligia Williams

RIGHT SIDE (2): Kayla Edginton, Nina Scrucca

ROSTER BY STATE/COUNTRY

ARIZONA (1): Lily Rolfes

BULGARIA (1): Viktoria Ninova

COLORADO (1): Elliott Mickelberry

CROATIA (1): Kate Lijic

ILLINOIS (2): Ava Ledebuhr, Audrey Rome

INDIANA (1): Ligia Williams

KENTUCKY (2): Kayla Hostetler, Sydney Nolan

MICHIGAN (1): Izzy Busignani

OHIO (1): Lilian Entenmann

PENNSYLVANIA (1): Kayla Edginton

SERBIA (2): Tatjana Simeunović, Andrea Simovski

SWITZERLAND (1): Nina Scrucca

TEXAS (1): Malayna Boyles

VIRGINIA (1): Julia Horan

WISCONSIN (1): Andi Spies

ROSTER BY CLASS

FIFTH YEAR (2)

4	Audrey Rome	MB
8	Ligia Williams	MB

SENIORS (3)

2	Sydney Nolan	OH
5	Lilian Entenmann	MB
9	Kayla Hostetler	L/DS

JUNIORS (3)

0	Andi Spies	S
6	Kate Lijic	S
7	Andrea Simovski	OH

SOPHOMORES (4)

1	Ava Ledebuhr	L/DS
15	Elliott Mickelberry	MB
16	Izzy Busignani	OH
18	Tatjana Simeunović	MB

FRESHMEN (6)

3	Lily Rolfes	S
11	Nina Scrucca	OPP
12	Malayna Boyles	OH
13	Kayla Edginton	RS/OH
14	Julia Horan	MB
21	Viktoria Ninova	L

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

DANIJELA TOMIĆ	Daniella Toe-Mitch
ZHENG XIANG	Chung Shawn
Andi SPIES	Sp-EE-s
LIGIA Williams	Lidg-ee-ah
Ava LEDEBUHR	lee-da-burr
Kayla HOSTETLER	HO-stet-ler
Izzy BUSIGNANI	BOOZE-e-yani
TATJANA SIMEUNOVIĆ	Tatiana Sa-moon-ah-vich
Lily ROLFES	Raw-fis
KATE LIJIC	Cot-tay Lee-yich
Viktoria NINOVA	nee-NOH-vuh
Andrea SIMOVSKI	Sim-off-skee
Nina SCRULLA	SkrOO-ka

TELEVISION ROSTER



0 ANDI SPIES
JR. | S | FORT ATKINSON, WIS.



1 AVA LEDEBUHR
SO. | L/DS | NAPERVILLE, ILL.



2 SYDNEY NOLAN
SR. | OH | FLORENCE KY.



3 LILY ROLFES
FR. | S | PHOENIX, ARIZ.



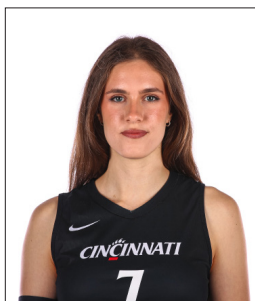
4 AUDREY ROME
5TH | MB | SANDWICH, ILL.



5 LILIAN ENTENMANN
SR. | MB | COLUMBUS, OHIO



6 KATE LIJIC
JR. | S | SPLIT, CROATIA



7 ANDREA SIMOVSKI
JR. | OH | BELGRADE, SERBIA



8 LIGIA WILLIAMS
5TH | MB | JEFFERSONVILLE, IND.



9 KAYLA HOSTETLER
SR. | L/DS | HEBRON, KY.



11 NINA SCRUCICA
FR. | OPP | NEUCHÂTEL, SWITZERLAND



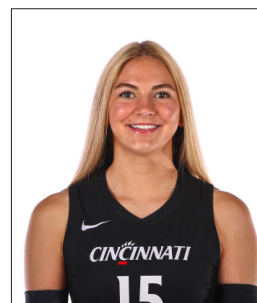
12 MALAYNA BOYLES
FR. | OH | LANTANA, TEXAS



13 KAYLA EDGINTON
FR. | RS/OH | MALVERN, PA.



14 JULIA HORAN
FR. | MB | FAIRFAX, VA.



15 ELLIOTT MICKELBERRY
SO. | MB | LAFAYETTE, COLO.



16 IZZY BUSIGNANI
SO. | OH | ROCHESTER HILLS, MICH.



18 TATIANA SIMEUNOVIĆ
SO. | MB | ČAČAK, SERBIA



21 VIKTORIA NINOVA
FR. | L | SOFIA, BULGARIA

HEAD COACH DANIJELA TOMIĆ | SECOND SEASON



University of Cincinnati Director of Athletics John Cunningham announced on Dec. 23, 2024, the hire of Danijela Tomić as the Bearcats' head volleyball coach, making her the 13th head coach in program history.

Tomić came to UC from Bowling Green, where she served as head coach for 13 seasons. She also spent seven seasons as head coach of Florida International. Her record as an NCAA head coach stands at 394-222 (.640) prior to her tenure at Cincinnati.

Overall, she has guided her teams to five NCAA Tournament appearances and seen her players collect nine All-America honors. Tomić is a six-time conference coach of the year.

In her debut season leading the Bearcats in 2025, Tomić guided Cincinnati to 15 wins, the program's most since 2021, and seven Big 12 victories, a two-win improvement over the previous conference-season high. Her squad set a program record for the highest three-set total score in school history (80 points) in a win over Alabama on Sept. 6, and posted the second-most solo blocks in a season in program history (65). Cincinnati closed the year ranked third in the Big 12 in hitting percentage. Under Tomić, the Bearcats produced their first-ever season with two All-Big 12 selections, as Sydney Nolan earned First Team All-Big 12 honors — the program's first First Team selection — and Carly Glendinning was named Second Team All-Big 12. Nolan also became the first Bearcat AVCA All-Region selection since 2019. Tomić now enters her second season at the helm in 2026.

In 13 seasons as head coach at BGSU, she led the Falcons to five MAC regular-season titles, three MAC Tournament championships and three NCAA Tournament appearances, including the program's first NCAA Tournament win in 2012. She was named MAC Coach of the Year three times at Bowling Green, most recently winning the honor in 2024.

Under her leadership, the Falcons secured seven 20-win seasons, reached the MAC Tournament Championship match five consecutive years (2019-2023), and set program records for winning streaks and overall performance.

Tomić's teams earned All-MAC recognition in each of her 13 seasons at Bowling Green, including at least one All-MAC First Team honoree in nine consecutive years, and posted five straight seasons with an All-Region member.

In 2024, Tomić led the Falcons to 25 victories, the highest single-season total during her tenure, and guided the team to an NIVC runner-up finish. Bowling Green also captured the MAC regular-season title with a 16-2 conference record, tied for the second-most MAC wins in program history during an 18-match schedule.

Under her guidance, Bowling Green produced two AVCA All-Americans — Lauryn Hovey, an Honorable Mention in 2024, and Petra Indrova, who earned Honorable Mention honors in both 2021 and 2022.

She led BGSU to back-to-back MAC regular-season titles in 2017 and 2018 as well as 2020-21 and 2022.

During the 2020-21 season, the program saw an 18-0 start in MAC play, marking the best conference start in both MAC and BGSU Athletics history.

In 2012, she guided the Falcons to a MAC Tournament title and an NCAA appearance in her first season at BGSU.

Prior to her arrival at Bowling Green, Tomić was a three-time Sun Belt Conference Coach of the Year at Florida International. In seven years as head coach at FIU, she compiled a record of 158-61 (.721).

A 1999 graduate of Arkansas-Little Rock, Tomić was named Sun Belt Conference Coach of the Year in 2006, 2008 and 2009, guiding the Panthers to the NCAA Tournament in each of those last two seasons.

Tomić took over at FIU in 2005 and made an immediate impact as her team improved by 12 wins over the previous season and reached the SBC Tournament as the No. 6 seed after missing out in two of the previous three years before her arrival.

Tomić played at UALR from 1995-97 as an outside hitter, right side hitter, and setter, helping to lead the team to the 1996 NCAA Tournament.

PERSONAL INFORMATION

HOMETOWN:

Catici, Bosnia and Herzegovina

ALMA MATER:

Arkansas Little-Rock (1999)
Concordia University Irvine (2021)

YEAR IN COACHING: 22nd

PLAYING CAREER

Arkansas Little-Rock (1995-97)

PRONUNCIATION:

DANIELLA TOE-MITCH



COACHING CAREER

Cincinnati	Head Coach, 2024-Present
BGSU	Head Coach, 2012-24
Florida International	Head Coach, 2005-11
Louisiana State	Associate Coach, 2003-04
UALR	Assistant Coach, 1997-03

EDUCATION

Arkansas Little Rock
B.S. | Health Education ('99)
Concordia University Irvine
M. A. | Coaching & Athletics Administration ('21)

YEAR-BY-YEAR COACHING RECORDS

Year	Team	Overall	Conf.	
2026	UC	6-3 (.667)	0-0	BIG 12
2025	UC	15-13 (.536)	7-11	BIG 12
2024	BGSU	25-10 (.714)	16-2	MAC
2023	BGSU	19-13 (.594)	11-7	MAC
2022	BGSU	22-10 (.688)	15-3	MAC
2021	BGSU	21-9 (.700)	16-2	MAC
2020-21	BGSU	22-2 (.917)	20-1	MAC
2019	BGSU	20-13 (.606)	11-5	MAC
2018	BGSU	19-12 (.613)	13-3	MAC
2017	BGSU	17-12 (.586)	13-3	MAC
2016	BGSU	21-10 (.677)	10-6	MAC
2015	BGSU	7-22 (.241)	3-13	MAC
2014	BGSU	7-21 (.250)	4-12	MAC
2013	BGSU	14-16 (.467)	10-6	MAC
2012	BGSU	22-11 (.667)	13-3	MAC
2011	FIU	20-10 (.667)	10-6	SUN BELT
2010	FIU	20-11 (.645)	12-4	SUN BELT
2009	FIU	32-4 (.889)	17-0	SUN BELT
2008	FIU	28-7 (.800)	15-2	SUN BELT
2007	FIU	19-8 (.704)	12-5	SUN BELT
2006	FIU	24-8 (.750)	14-3	SUN BELT
2005	FIU	15-13 (.536)	5-6	SUN BELT
Career Total		415-238 (.636)	247-103 (.705)	



ZHENG XIANG

ASSOCIATE HEAD COACH/RECRUITING COORDINATOR

SECOND SEASON • INDIANA UNIVERSITY, 2000

- Zheng Xiang (pronounced Chung Shawn) joined the Bearcats after two seasons at Michigan State (2023-24), where he helped lead the Spartans to their best win total since 2019.
- Before MSU, he spent nine years at Rice, where he was elevated to associate head coach for his final four seasons. A proven recruiter, Xiang played a key role in assembling top-ranked recruiting classes at both Rice and UTSA.
- At Rice, Xiang played a key role in the program's rise, guiding the Owls to five straight NCAA Tournament appearances (2018-22) and multiple Conference USA titles. Rice posted a 199-69 (.742) record during his tenure, including a No. 19 national ranking in 2022. He also developed numerous All-Americans and All-Region players while serving as the team's defensive coordinator.
- Xiang served as a volunteer assistant coach at Texas A&M for one season (2013) in which the Aggies reached the second round of the NCAA Tournament. He was an assistant coach at Texas at San Antonio for five seasons (2008-12) prior to his year in College Station.
- Originally from Chicago, Xiang earned his bachelor's degree in business from Indiana in 2000 and an MBA in marketing from Texas' McCombs School of Business in 2006. Xiang was a member of Indiana's club team from 1997-2000 and was the squad's captain his final season. He also played two years at Texas, where he earned first-team All-Southern Intercollegiate Volleyball Association honors in 2006.



ALI COOKE

ASSOCIATE HEAD COACH

SECOND SEASON • WINGATE UNIVERSITY, 2014

- Cooke reunited with Tomić after spending the past eight seasons at Bowling Green State University, where she served as associate head coach.
- Cooke was promoted to associate head coach following the 2025 season at UC.
- While at BGSU, she helped guide the Falcons to multiple championships, including three MAC regular season titles (2017, 2018, 2024) and two MAC Tournament crowns (2020-21, 2022) that led to NCAA Tournament appearances. The program also made five consecutive MAC Tournament Championship appearances (2019-2023), the longest streak in over a decade.
- Before BGSU, Cooke was a volunteer assistant coach at Duke (2015-2017), helping the Blue Devils to back-to-back winning seasons, including a 21-9 finish in 2016.
- As a player, she was a standout setter at Wingate, leading the Bulldogs to three NCAA Elite Eight appearances and earning two AVCA All-American honors. A native of Davidson, N.C., Cooke holds a psychology degree from Wingate and a master's in coaching and athletic administration from Concordia University Irvine.



SEAN DREXL

ASSISTANT COACH

SECOND SEASON • UNIVERSITY OF CHARLESTON, 2021

- Drexler joined the Cincinnati volleyball staff after working alongside Coach Tomić as Director of Operations at Bowling Green State University for the past two seasons.
- During his tenure, he contributed to the Falcons' historic 2024 campaign, which saw a 25-10 record, a MAC Championship, and an NIVC Runner-Up finish.
- Before BGSU, Drexler served as an assistant coach at Presbyterian College and Georgia Southern, where he was involved in scouting, film review, statistical analysis, and match preparation.
- His coaching career began as the U16 head coach for MVP Academy in Florida while he played collegiately as a libero at the University of Charleston. A 2021 All-Conference EIVA Second Team selection, Drexler earned his bachelor's degree in exercise science from Charleston.



QUICK FACTS

GENERAL

Location	Cincinnati, OH 45221
Founded	1819
Enrollment.....	55,000
Conference	Big 12
Nickname.....	Bearcats
Colors.....	Red (PMS 186) & Black
Home Court	Fifth Third Arena
President.....	Neville G. Pinto, PhD
Director of Athletics.....	John Cunningham
Faculty Representative.....	Brian Hatch, PhD

HISTORY

First Year of Volleyball.....	1972
All-Time Record	1097-690-8
No. Yrs in NCAA Tournament/Last	13/2019
Last NCAA Postseason Opponent	No. 11 Penn State, 2-3

COACHING STAFF

Head Coach.....	Danijela Tomić (UALR, '99)
Overall Record (Year).....	415-238 (22nd)
Record at Cincinnati (Year)	21-16 (2nd)
Associate Coach.....	Zheng Xiang (Indiana, '00)
Year at Cincinnati	2nd
Assistant Coach.....	Ali Cooke (Wingate, '14)
Year at Cincinnati	2nd
Assistant Coach.....	Sean Drexel (Charleston, '21)
Year at Cincinnati	2nd

2025 INFORMATION

Overall Record:.....	15-13
Home	7-5
Road	4-7
Neutral.....	4-1
Conference Record	7-11
Home	5-4
Road	2-7
Finish.....	11th

2026 TEAM

Starters Returning/Lost:	3/4
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2026 SCHEDULE INFORMATION

Home/Away/Neutral Games:	11/13/4
Big 12 Home/Away Games:	9/9
Non-Conf. Home/Away, Neutral Games:	2/4/4

COMMUNICATIONS

Volleyball Contact.....	Zac Swain
Phone.....	937-613-0128
Email	swainzt@ucmail.uc.edu

FOLLOW ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Instagram:	@GoBearsVB
X:	@GoBearsVB
Facebook:	@GoBearsVB
Hashtag:	#BearsVB

LIJIC, NOLAN EARN POPCORN CLASSIC ALL-TOURNAMENT HONORS

- Lijic, Nolan Earn Popcorn Classic All-Tournament Honors
- Lijic and outside hitter Sydney Nolan both earned Popcorn Classic All-Tournament honors
- Nolan hit .357 with 37 kills (5.29 K/S) over seven sets across the weekend
- Nolan posted 23 kills on a .333 clip in the loss to Michigan

NOLAN LEADS THE WAY

- Outside hitter Sydney Nolan returns for her senior season coming off an impressive junior campaign.
- **Honors:** Selected to the 2026 Preseason All-Big 12 Team after earning First Team All-Big 12 and AVCA All-Region accolades in 2025.
- **Match Load:** Played in 26 matches (100 sets) for the Bearcats.
- **Offensive Production:** Averaged 4.68 kills per set (team-best .305 hitting percentage) with 11 matches of 20+ kills.
- **Program Marks:** Ranked eighth in program rally-scoring history for kills per set and set a school record with 75 attacks in a four-set match vs. Arizona.
- **Single-Game Highlight:** Delivered 25 kills on 52 attempts with no errors (.481 hitting) vs. No. 19 BYU.
- **National Rankings:** Finished 12th in kills per set (4.68), 15th in attacks per set (11.87), 17th in points per set (5.97), and 25th in total kills (468).
- **Big 12 Rankings:** Finished second in attacks per set, third in kills and points per set, fifth in total kills, and sixth in total attacks.

THE TOMIC ERA

- Cincinnati welcomed Danijela Tomić as the 13th head coach in program history in December 2024. Tomić enters her second season at the helm in 2026.
- Tomić came to UC from Bowling Green, where she served as head coach for 13 seasons. She also spent seven seasons as head coach of Florida International. Her record as an NCAA head coach stands at 409-235 (.635).
- Tomić added three staff members to her group, two joining from her previous school. All three enter their second season with the Bearcats in 2026.
- Zheng Xiang (pronounced Chung Shawn) joined the staff in February 2025 to serve as associate head coach and recruiting coordinator after two seasons at Michigan State (2023-24), where he helped lead the Spartans to their best win total since 2019.
- Ali Cooke, associate head coach, reunited with Tomić after spending the previous eight seasons at Bowling Green State University, where she most recently served as associate head coach. Cooke was promoted to associate head coach at Cincinnati following her first season with the Bearcats.
- Sean Drexel, assistant coach, joined the Cincinnati volleyball staff after working alongside Tomić as director of operations at Bowling Green State University for two seasons.

RETURNING TALENT

- Cincinnati returns nine athletes, including three key starters from a season ago. The Bearcats bring back their leading point scorer, Sydney Nolan (4.68 K/S), top assist getter, Andi Spies (9.44 A/S) and top blocker Tatjana Simeunović (1.09 BLK/S).
- In 2025, Nolan owned a team-best 4.68 kills per set and .305 hitting percentage.
- Spies recorded 40+ assists in eight matches, posted nine double-doubles on the season and ranked sixth in the Big 12 in assists per set.
- Simeunović held down the front line for UC last season. She recorded 10 matches of five plus blocks and notched a career-best 10 rejections against Texas Tech (11/14/25).

THE FUTURE IS BRIGHT

- The Bearcats welcome six talented freshmen for the 2026 season: Julia Horan, Nina Scrucca, Malayna Boyles, Lily Rolfes, Viktoria Ninova and Kayla Edginton.
- **Julia Horan:** A 6-2 middle blocker from Fairfax, Va., guided Chantilly High School to district and regional titles and a state runner-up finish, totaling 132 kills and 84 blocks as a junior while earning

First Team All-District and Second Team All-Region honors.

- **Nina Scrucca:** A 6-0 opposite from Neuchâtel, Switzerland, brings professional experience with League A's Viteos NUC, where she earned League A MVP honors and won multiple Swiss Championship and Swiss Cup titles alongside extensive Swiss National Team experience.
- **Malayna Boyles:** A 6-1 outside hitter from Lantana, Texas, compiled 796 kills, 460 digs, and 108 blocks across her four-year career at Denton Guyer High School, earning First Team All-District honors and leading her team to a 6A regional semifinal.
- **Lily Rolfes:** A 5-9 setter from Phoenix, Ariz., led the state with 1,195 assists as a junior and amassed over 3,000 assists and 804 digs at Sunrise Mountain High School while guiding the program to back-to-back 5A state runner-up finishes.
- **Viktoria Ninova:** A 5-8 libero from Sofia, Bulgaria, boasts an elite international résumé that includes best libero honors at the 2025 U19 World Championship and senior national team appearances in the 2025 FIVB World Championship and Volleyball Nations League.
- **Kayla Edginton:** A 6-2 right side/outside hitter from Malvern, Pa., was the 2025 Inter-Ac MVP at Academy of Notre Dame de Namur, where she set the school record for single-season blocks as a junior and led the program to back-to-back PAISSA state titles.

IMPACT TRANSFERS POISED TO LEAD BEARCATS

- The Bearcats have bolstered their roster with three key transfers ahead of the 2026 season.
- **Audrey Rome:** A fifth-year middle blocker from UConn, brings high-level net presence and veteran experience after starting every match for the Huskies in 2025, leading the team with 89 blocks while adding 236 kills, two BIG EAST Defensive Player of the Week selections, and a Bearcat Classic All-Tournament MVP nod.
- **Kate Lijic:** A junior setter from Miami/Utah State, adds versatile playmaking and international-caliber experience after representing Croatia across six national team levels, earning best setter at three Croatian national championship levels, and recording 153 assists and 51 digs as a freshman at Utah State while earning Academic All-Mountain West honors.
- **Andrea Simovski:** A junior outside hitter from Utah State, arrives as an explosive scoring threat after being named the 2025 Mountain West Tournament MVP, racking up 328 kills and 260 digs while helping guide the Aggies to an undefeated 18-0 conference title, a 22-match winning streak, and an NCAA Tournament first-round upset of No. 7 Tennessee.

W.I.N. THE DAY

- Since the start of Tomić's tenure, the team has coined the phrase "W.I.N. The Day" as a team slogan.
- W = What's, I = Important, N = Now, the team focuses on winning each and every day and how they can get 1% better together.
- They have also distinguished six core values to represent the program: love, unity, excellence, courage, resilience and discipline.

IT RUNS IN THE FAMILY

- **Lilian Entenmann:** Father played basketball at Stetson and professionally in Germany, while her brother played basketball at Kent State.
- **Andi Spies:** Sister played Volleyball at Dominican University
- **Ava Ledebuhr:** Mom played Softball at Quincy University
- **Izzy Busignani:** Brother is a Diver at Grand Valley State
- **Sydney Nolan:** Father played Baseball at Findlay
- **Julia Horan:** Mother played basketball at Boston College and Fairfield, father played basketball at Fairfield, brother Connor currently plays basketball at Iona.
- **Kayla Edginton:** Father played baseball at Arizona State and Miami (OH) University, mother played volleyball at Miami (OH) University. Uncle Kevin McCullough played football and aunt Alyssa Olsen McCullough played golf, both at Cincinnati. Uncle Bryan McCullough played football and aunt Tara Buroker McCullough played volleyball, both at Miami University.

2026 BIG 12 CONFERENCE STANDINGS

TEAM	BIG 12	CPCT.	OVERALL	PCT.	STREAK	C-HOME	C-AWAY	C-NEUTRAL	C-STREAK
Colorado	0-0	.000	8-0	1.000	W8	0-0	0-0	0-0	
Kansas State	0-0	.000	6-0	1.000	W6	0-0	0-0	0-0	
UCF	0-0	.000	7-1	.875	W3	0-0	0-0	0-0	
BYU	0-0	.000	6-1	.857	W3	0-0	0-0	0-0	
Arizona State	0-0	.000	7-2	.778	W2	0-0	0-0	0-0	
Baylor	0-0	.000	7-2	.778	W2	0-0	0-0	0-0	
TCU	0-0	.000	7-2	.778	W5	0-0	0-0	0-0	
Texas Tech	0-0	.000	7-2	.778	W5	0-0	0-0	0-0	
CINCINNATI	0-0	.000	6-3	.667	W1	0-0	0-0	0-0	
Houston	0-0	.000	5-3	.625	L2	0-0	0-0	0-0	
Iowa State	0-0	.000	5-3	.625	L1	0-0	0-0	0-0	
Kansas	0-0	.000	5-3	.625	W4	0-0	0-0	0-0	
Utah	0-0	.000	5-3	.625	L1	0-0	0-0	0-0	
West Virginia	0-0	.000	4-3	.571	L2	0-0	0-0	0-0	
Arizona	0-0	.000	3-5	.375	W1	0-0	0-0	0-0	

QUEEN CITY CONNECTION

- Former high school teammates and best friends Sydney Nolan and Kayla Hostetler reunited during the 2024 season. The duo attended Notre Dame Academy in Northern Kentucky.
- Both athletes previously played club volleyball for NKYVC.

WALKER TO SALT LAKE

- Former Bearcat Abby Walker signed with Salt Lake of League One Volleyball.
- Joins Bearcat Hall of Famer Jordan Thompson (plays for Houston) as the second active Cincinnati alumna in LOVB.
- Move comes after two seasons with the Columbus Fury of the MLV.
- Drafted by the Columbus Fury in the 2024 PVF Collegiate Draft — fourth round, 32nd overall selection.
- Over her two years with the Fury, appeared in 183 sets, totaling 235 kills and 70 blocks.
- During her time at UC, she earned AAC Freshman of the Year honors in 2021 and three All-Conference recognitions.

2025 LEAGUE ONE VOLLEYBALL MVP

- Former University of Cincinnati volleyball standout Jordan Thompson was named LOVB Most Valuable Player after the most dominant individual season in the league's two-year history.
- Played as Houston's opposite hitter
- Shattered LOVB records with 455 points (6.15/set) and 423 kills (5.72/set) — at least 120 ahead of any other player in both categories.
- Posted a .362 attack efficiency, highest among all LOVB pin hitters.
- Reached 30+ points in four matches, including a then-record 32 points on March 11, matched again April 4.
- Recorded 13 aces from the service line
- Held opponents to a fifth-best .392 in-system passing rate.
- Thompson was a three-time AAC Player of the Year and two-time AVCA All-American, leading the Bearcats to their first Sweet 16 in 2019.

THIS IS VOLLEYBALL COUNTRY: THE BIG 12

- **NCAA Tournament Dominance:** Sent a conference-record 10 teams to the 2025 NCAA Tournament (most in the nation), advancing eight to the second round (most in Big 12 history) and sending two to the Sweet 16.
- **Top-Ranked RPI:** Finished with the No. 1 Conference RPI in the nation, leading all leagues with 10 teams in the top 45 and six in the top 25.
- **Non-Conference Mastery:** Posted a nation-leading .788 non-conference win percentage (130-35) against Division I opponents.
- **Poll Presence:** Tied for the national lead with seven teams ranked in the final AVCA Top 25 (led by No. 12 Arizona State), plus Kansas State receiving votes.

ACADEMIC SUCCESS

- Cincinnati received the American Volleyball Coaches Association Team Academic Award for the 12th consecutive year after compiling a 3.79 GPA during the 2025-26 academic year.

- The team also earned the additional distinction of AVCA Team Academic Honor Roll, representing the top 20% of GPAs nationally by division.
- Ten student-athletes earned a spot on the Dean's List with a 3.5 GPA or higher, including eight who recorded a perfect 4.0 GPA.
- The award, initiated in the 1992–93 academic year, honors collegiate and high school volleyball teams that display excellence in the classroom by maintaining at least a 3.30 cumulative team GPA.

UC'S NCAA TOURNAMENT HISTORY

- 1981: at Penn State, L 0-3
- 1999: vs Santa Clara, L 1-3
- 2000: vs No. 20 Notre Dame, L 0-3
- 2001: vs Xavier, W 3-1; at No. 10 Ohio State, L 1-3
- 2002: vs Arizona State, L 2-3
- 2003: vs UCF, L 2-3
- 2008: vs WKU, W 3-2; at No. 9 Illinois, L 0-3
- 2009: at Ohio State, L 1-3
- 2010: vs WKU, W 3-0; at No. 14 Illinois, L 1-3
- 2011: vs Samford, W 3-2; vs Florida State, L 2-3
- 2016: vs No. 16 Florida State, L 1-3
- 2018: vs Illinois State, 3-0; at No. 15 Marquette, L 0-3
- 2019: vs VCU, W 3-1; at No. 6 Pitt, W 3-2; vs. No. 11 Penn State, L 2-3

BIG 12 PRESEASON POLL

1. Arizona State (12), 194 points
2. TCU (3), 177 points
3. Kansas, 159 points
4. Baylor, 152 points
5. Colorado, 143 points
6. Iowa State, 131 points
7. BYU, 122 points
8. Utah, 118 points
9. UCF, 84 points
10. Arizona, 77 points
11. Kansas State, 65 points
12. CINCINNATI, 60 POINTS
13. West Virginia, 39 points
14. Houston, 35 points
15. Texas Tech, 19 points

First-place votes in parentheses.

INTERNATIONAL CONNECTION

This season's roster spans the globe, with five student-athletes representing Serbia, Croatia, Switzerland and Bulgaria — each bringing serious international pedigree to the program.

- **Andrea Simovski (Serbia):** Attended Sixth Belgrade General High School and played club volleyball for Radnicki Blaster. Helped Serbia's U16 team win gold at the Serbian National Tournament in 2021 and the U18 team win bronze in 2022.
- **Kate Lijic (Croatia):** Born in Split, Croatia; attended V Gymnasium Vladimir Nazor and played club volleyball for Volleyball Club Split. Represented Croatia at six national team levels (U16–U21), helping the U19 team to a fifth-place finish at the 2023 World Championships. Won gold at the Middle European Championship in 2021 and 2022, and also competed for Croatia at the 2022 World High School Championship in Brazil, the 2022 and 2024 European

Championships, and the 2023 Youth Olympic Games.

- **Nina Scrucca (Switzerland):** Competed professionally in Switzerland's League A with Vitéos NUC, winning the Swiss Supercup, Swiss Championship and Swiss Cup across multiple seasons, along with Junior U23 and U23 Swiss National Championship titles. Represented Switzerland's U20 national team and serves as a reserve for the full national team, including at the 2024 U20 European Championship qualifiers.
- **Tatjana Simeunović (Serbia):** Helped her club team, Borac, win the Second Serbian League title and earn promotion to the First Serbian League. Also gained experience competing for Sloboda in Cacak.
- **Viktoria Ninova (Bulgaria):** Starred for CSKA Sofia and represented Bulgaria across the U17, U18, U19, U20 and senior national teams. Competed at the Balkan Championships (2022–25), European Championships (U17, U18, U20), and two U19 World Championships, plus the senior-level 2025 Volleyball Nations League and 2025 FIVB Women's World Championship. Won gold at the 2024 U18 European Championship, 2025 U19 Balkan Championship and 2025 U19 World Championship.

REUNITED IN THE QUEEN CITY

- Kate Lijic and Andrea Simovski join forces once again with the Bearcats, bringing immediate chemistry to the lineup.
- Both players entered Utah State together in 2024 as freshmen and quickly earned valuable playing time on the court.
- Their collegiate careers developed under former Aggies head coach Rob Neilson, who also transitions to the Big 12 this year for his first season leading BYU.
- The trio's shared history sets up an intriguing conference dynamic as Lijic and Simovski face their former head coach from opposite sides of the net on Sat., Nov. 21 in Provo, Utah.



0 // ANDI SPIES

S / JR. / 5-10

FORT ATKINSON, WIS. / FORT ATKINSON / MIDDLE TENNESSEE

2025:

- Ranked sixth in the Big 12 with 9.44 assists per set.
- Recorded 40-plus assists in eight matches and totaled nine double-doubles.
- Set a season high with 52 assists against West Virginia.
- Posted a 31-assist, 11-dig double-double in a sweep of No. 21 Colorado.
- Tallied 39 assists and 13 digs in a four-set road win at West Virginia.

SEASON	TEAM	SM-MP	K	K/S	E	TA	PCT	A	A/S	SA	SA/S	SE	DIG	D/S	RE	BS	BA	TB	B/S	BE	BHE	PTS	PTS/S
2024-25	MTSU	119-31	135	1.13	59	370	.205	1115	9.37	44	0.37	43	269	2.26	2	2	71	73	0.61	10	3	216.5	1.82
2025-26	UC	107-28	86	0.80	23	226	.279	1010	9.44	19	0.18	39	239	2.23	0	9	53	62	0.58	6	2	140.5	1.31
TOTAL FOR UC		107-28	86	0.80	23	226	.279	1010	9.44	19	0.18	39	239	2.23	0	9	53	62	0.58	6	2	140.5	1.31
TOTAL		226-59	221	0.98	82	596	.233	2125	9.40	63	0.28	82	508	2.25	2	11	124	135	0.60	16	5	357.0	1.58



1 // AVA LEDEBUHR

L/DS / SO. / 5-8

NAPERVILLE, ILL. / BENET ACADEMY

2026:

- Has recorded 10-plus digs in two matches.
- Posted 16 digs against Santa Clara.

2025:

- Recorded five-plus digs in eight matches.
- Set a career high with 17 digs in a four-set win over Wake Forest

SEASON	TEAM	SM-MP	K	K/S	E	TA	PCT	A	A/S	SA	SA/S	SE	DIG	D/S	RE	BS	BA	TB	B/S	BE	BHE	PTS	PTS/S
2025-26	UC	47-22	0	0.00	0	1	.000	5	0.11	4	0.09	7	77	1.64	6	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	4.0	0.09
2026-27	UC	26-8	0	0.00	0	0	.000	4	0.15	0	0.00	0	58	2.23	8	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.0	0.00
TOTAL		73-30	0	0.00	0	1	.000	9	0.12	4	0.05	7	135	1.85	14	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	4.0	0.05



2 // SYDNEY NOLAN

OH / SR. / 6-4

FLORENCE, KY. / NOTRE DAME ACADEMY / UNC

2026 PRESEASON FIRST TEAM ALL BIG 12

2025 FIRST TEAM ALL BIG 12

2025 ACVA ALL-REGION

2025 BIG 12 OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE WEEK (SEPT. 9)

2023 ACC ALL-FRESHMAN TEAM

2026:

- Ranks 18th nationally and fourth in the Big 12 with 4.30 kills per set.
- Named to the Popcorn Classic All-Tournament Team after hitting .357 with 37 kills, averaging 5.29 kills per set across seven sets.
- Has recorded two 20-plus-kill matches and six matches with 10-plus.
- Has notched two double-doubles.
- Posted 25 kills and nine digs at Illinois, followed by 24 kills and 10 digs against Michigan.

2025:

- Ranked 12th nationally in kills per set (4.68), 15th in attacks per set (11.87), 17th in points per set (5.97) and 25th nationally with 468 kills.
- Recorded 11 matches with 20-plus kills.
- Set a Cincinnati school record with 75 attacks against Arizona.
- Her 4.68 kills per set ranked eighth in program history during the Rally Scoring Era and ninth overall.
- Posted 25 kills on .481 hitting against No. 19 BYU, committing zero errors on 52 attempts.

SEASON	TEAM	SM-MP	K	K/S	E	TA	PCT	A	A/S	SA	SA/S	SE	DIG	D/S	RE	BS	BA	TB	B/S	BE	BHE	PTS	PTS/S
2023-24	UC	65-18	104	1.60	18	220	.391	5	0.08	1	0.02	5	16	0.25	0	8	61	69	1.06	2	0	143.5	2.21
2024-25	UC	105-29	313	2.98	99	887	.241	12	0.11	14	0.13	23	187	1.78	20	3	49	52	0.50	4	0	354.5	3.38
2025-26	UC	100-26	468	4.68	106	1187	.305	4	0.04	20	0.20	29	109	1.09	6	6	26	32	0.32	1	0	507.0	5.07
2026-27	UC	27-9	116	4.30	25	283	.322	2	0.07	6	0.22	7	50	1.85	2	1	6	7	0.26	1	0	126.0	4.67
TOTAL FOR UC		232-64	897	3.87	230	2357	.283	18	0.08	40	0.17	59	346	1.49	28	10	81	91	0.39	6	0	987.5	4.26
TOTAL		297-82	1001	3.37	248	2577	.292	23	0.08	41	0.14	64	362	1.22	28	18	142	160	0.54	8	0	1131	3.81



3 // LILY ROLFES

S / FR. / 5-9

PHOENIX, ARIZ. / SUNRISE MOUNTAIN

HIGH SCHOOL:

- Finished her Sunrise Mountain career with more than 3,000 assists and 804 digs.
- Led the state of Arizona with 1,195 assists as a junior, earning Region MVP honors.
- Guided Sunrise Mountain to back-to-back 5A State Runner-Up finishes as a junior and senior.
- Earned three All-Region selections during her prep career.
- Named the school's Female Newcomer of the Year and Female Sportsman of the Year.
- Collected 15 Open All-Tournament Team honors while competing for Arizona Storm Elite.



4 // AUDREY ROME

MB / 5TH / 6-3

SANDWICH, ILL. / SANDWICH / UCONN

2X BIG EAST DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE WEEK

2025 BEARCAT CLASSIC ALL-TOURNAMENT MVP

2026:

- Posted seven kills on a .583 clip versus Ball State
- Recorded six kills on .444 hitting and five blocks against Syracuse.

AT UCONN:

- Played 26 matches and 85 sets in 2024, finishing second on the team with 1.00 blocks per set.
- Ranked third on the team with 85 total blocks while adding 158 kills in 2024.
- Posted a career-high 14 kills three times in 2025, against Fairfield, DePaul and St. John's.
- Recorded a 12-kill, 10-block double-double against Buffalo in 2024.

SEASON	TEAM	SM-MP	K	K/S	E	TA	PCT	A	A/S	SA	SA/S	SE	DIG	D/S	RE	BS	BA	TB	B/S	BE	BHE	PTS	PTS/S
2023-24	UConn	46-14	71	1.54	34	177	.209	2	0.04	12	0.26	32	19	0.41	0	10	32	42	0.91	2	1	109.0	2.37
2024-25	UConn	85-26	158	1.86	75	385	.216	2	0.02	5	0.06	22	23	0.27	1	19	66	85	1.00	11	0	215.0	2.53
2025-26	UConn	105-28	236	2.25	58	491	.363	5	0.05	2	0.02	4	28	0.27	0	29	60	89	0.85	4	0	297.0	2.83
2026-27	UC	19-8	27	1.42	9	58	.310	0	0.00	2	0.11	4	7	0.37	1	1	11	12	0.63	1	0	35.5	1.87
TOTAL FOR UC		19-8	27	1.42	9	58	.310	0	0.00	2	0.11	4	7	0.37	1	1	11	12	0.63	1	0	35.5	1.87
TOTAL		255-76	492	1.93	176	1111	.284	9	0.04	21	0.08	62	77	0.30	2	59	169	228	0.89	18	1	656.5	2.57



5 // LILIAN ENTENMANN

MB / SR. / 6-1

COLUMBUS, OHIO / UPPER ARLINGTON

2026:

- Had five kills (.833) vs Syracuse.
- Posted five kills (.625) against Morehead State.

BEARCAT NOTES:

- Returned to action in 2026 after missing the 2025 season due to injury.
- Holds dual citizenship through her German heritage and is fluent in German
- Father played basketball at Stetson and her brother played at Kent State

SEASON	TEAM	SM-MP	K	K/S	E	TA	PCT	A	A/S	SA	SA/S	SE	DIG	D/S	RE	BS	BA	TB	B/S	BE	BHE	PTS	PTS/S
2023-24	UC	19-11	0	0.00	0	1	.000	0	0.00	1	0.05	5	0	0.00	0	0	2	2	0.11	0	0	2.0	0.11
2024-25	UC	1-1	0	0.00	0	0	.000	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.0	0.00
2026-27	UC	19-8	19	1.00	7	44	.273	2	0.11	0	0.00	8	7	0.37	0	2	4	6	0.32	0	0	23.0	1.21
TOTAL		39-20	19	0.49	7	45	.267	2	0.05	1	0.03	14	7	0.18	0	2	6	8	0.21	0	0	25.0	0.64



6 // KATE LIJIC

S / JR. / 6-0
SPLIT, CROATIA / MIAMI

BIG 12 STARTING SEVEN (SEPT. 8)

2026:

- Ranks fifth nationally and first in the Big 12 with 11.48 assists per set.
- Named to the Popcorn Classic All-Tournament Team after distributing 112 assists over three matches, averaging 12.44 assists per set.
- Set a career high with 54 assists against Illinois.
- Added 42 assists against Valparaiso and Morehead State.
- Career-best three Service aces against Ball State
- Has recorded 40-plus assists in four matches, 30-plus in eight.

SEASON	TEAM	SM-MP	K	K/S	E	TA	PCT	A	A/S	SA	SA/S	SE	DIG	D/S	RE	BS	BA	TB	B/S	BE	BHE	PTS	PTS/S
2024-25	USU	41-13	0	0.00	0	1	.000	153	3.73	5	0.12	6	51	1.24	0	0	0	0.00	2	1	5.0	0.12	
2025-26	UM	15-8	0	0.00	0	0	.000	19	1.27	0	0.00	1	6	0.40	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.0	0.00	
2026-27	UC	29-9	10	0.34	8	39	.051	333	11.48	10	0.34	5	45	1.55	0	9	9	0.31	3	1	24.5	0.84	
TOTAL FOR UC		29-9	10	0.34	8	39	.051	333	11.48	10	0.34	5	45	1.55	0	9	9	0.31	3	1	24.5	0.84	
TOTAL		85-30	10	0.12	8	40	.050	505	5.94	15	0.18	12	102	1.20	0	9	9	0.11	5	2	29.5	0.35	



8 // LIGIA WILLIAMS

MB / 5TH / 5-11
JEFFERSONVILLE, IND. / ROCK CREEK ACADEMY

2026:

- Recorded eight kills (.467) and three blocks against Illinois
- Posted five blocks vs Michigan

BEARCAT NOTES:

- Owns a career-high 10 blocks against Baylor, the most by a Bearcat since 2018.
- Posted a team-best 1.12 blocks per set in 2023.
- Recorded five-plus blocks in nine matches during the 2023 season, including nine at West Virginia.
- Her 19 solo blocks in 2023 rank seventh in program history for a single season during the Rally Scoring Era.
- Returned to competition in 2026 after missing the 2025 season due to injury.
- Played six matches in 2022 before suffering a season-ending injury and redshirted in 2021.

SEASON	TEAM	SM-MP	K	K/S	E	TA	PCT	A	A/S	SA	SA/S	SE	DIG	D/S	RE	BS	BA	TB	B/S	BE	BHE	PTS	PTS/S
2022-23	UC	23-6	37	1.61	24	115	.113	1	0.04	0	0.00	0	6	0.26	0	3	15	18	0.78	3	0	47.5	2.07
2023-24	UC	93-26	153	1.65	61	369	.249	2	0.02	0	0.00	0	15	0.16	0	19	85	104	1.12	14	2	214.5	2.31
2024-25	UC	60-21	54	0.90	25	141	.206	5	0.08	0	0.00	0	15	0.25	1	11	58	69	1.15	9	0	94.0	1.57
2026-27	UC	19-7	29	1.53	9	61	.328	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	5	0.26	0	4	10	14	0.74	1	0	38.0	2.00
TOTAL		195-60	273	1.40	119	686	.224	8	0.04	0	0.00	1	41	0.21	1	37	168	205	1.05	27	2	394.0	2.02



7 // ANDREA SIMOVSKI

OH / JR. / 6-1
BELGRADE, SERBIA / SIXTH BELGRADE GRAMMAR / UTAH STATE

2025 MOUNTAIN WEST TOURNAMENT MVP
2025 MOUNTAIN WEST ALL-TOURNAMENT TEAM
2024 MOUNTAIN WEST SCHOLAR-ATHLETE
2024 ACADEMIC ALL-MOUNTAIN WEST

2026:

- Recorded a 13-kill, 13-dig double-double against Illinois.
- Has produced two matches with double-digit kills.
- Recorded four service aces against Syracuse.

AT UTAH STATE:

- Helped Utah State capture the 2025 Mountain West Championship with an 18-0 conference record and advance to the NCAA Tournament Second Round.
- Utah State's postseason run included an upset of No. 7 Tennessee.
- Recorded double-doubles in both Mountain West Tournament matches, totaling 37 kills on .427 hitting and 28 digs.
- Helped the Aggies put together a 22-match winning streak while finishing 24-8 in 2025.
- Earned Mountain West Freshman of the Week honors in 2024.
- Recorded four 20-plus-kill matches as a true freshman.

SEASON	TEAM	SM-MP	K	K/S	E	TA	PCT	A	A/S	SA	SA/S	SE	DIG	D/S	RE	BS	BA	TB	B/S	BE	BHE	PTS	PTS/S
2024-25	USU	117-29	279	2.38	153	778	.162	29	0.25	37	0.32	39	238	2.03	32	1	30	31	0.26	7	0	332.0	2.84
2025-26	USU	115-32	328	2.85	173	865	.179	37	0.32	42	0.37	39	260	2.26	27	0	34	34	0.30	4	0	387.0	3.37
2026-27	UC	16-7	39	2.44	13	104	.250	0	0.00	7	0.44	4	28	1.75	10	1	4	5	0.31	0	0	49.0	3.06
TOTAL FOR UC		16-7	39	2.44	13	104	.250	0	0.00	7	0.44	4	28	1.75	10	1	4	5	0.31	0	0	49.0	3.06
TOTAL		248-68	646	2.60	339	1747	.176	66	0.27	86	0.35	82	526	2.12	69	2	68	70	0.28	11	0	768.0	3.10



9 // KAYLA HOSTETLER

L/DS / SR. / 5-6
HEBRON, KY. / NOTRE DAME ACADEMY

2026:

- Recorded six digs vs Oakland

2025:

- Posted a season-high 10 digs and two assists in a four-set win over Eastern Kentucky.
- Recorded seven digs in a five-set victory at Ball State.

SEASON	TEAM	SM-MP	K	K/S	E	TA	PCT	A	A/S	SA	SA/S	SE	DIG	D/S	RE	BS	BA	TB	B/S	BE	BHE	PTS	PTS/S
2023-24	UC	96-25	0	0.00	0	2	.000	8	0.08	17	0.18	14	166	1.73	28	0	1	1	0.01	1	0	17.5	0.18
2025-26	UC	30-12	0	0.00	0	0	.000	6	0.20	0	0.00	0	34	1.13	9	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.0	0.00
2026-27	UC	22-8	0	0.00	0	0	.000	2	0.09	0	0.00	0	23	1.05	8	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.0	0.00
TOTAL		148-45	0	0.00	0	2	.000	16	0.11	17	0.11	14	223	1.51	45	0	1	1	0.01	1	0	17.5	0.12



11 // NINA SCRUGGA

OPP / FR. / 6-0

NEUCHÂTEL, SWITZERLAND / LYCÉE JEAN-PIAGET

2026:

- Career-best 13 kills (.591) versus Ball State — fifth best hitting percentage in a match by a Big 12 player this season.
- Recorded 11 kills on .409 hitting, six digs and five aces at Illinois.
- Her five aces were the second-most by a Big 12 player in a match this season.
- Added nine kills against Syracuse, Valparaiso and Morehead State.

INTERNATIONAL:

- Brings top-flight European experience after competing in Switzerland's League A with Vitéos NUC.
- Multiple-time national and club champion with titles in the Swiss Supercup, Swiss Championship and Swiss Cup.
- Earned Swiss League A MVP honors, the first professional MVP selection of her career.
- Won a Junior U23 Swiss National Championship and additional U23 Swiss honors.

SEASON	TEAM	SM-MP	K	K/S	E	TA	PCT	A	A/S	SA	SA/S	SE	DIG	D/S	RE	BS	BA	TB	B/S	BE	BHE	PTS	PTS/S
2026-27	UC	29-9	76	2.62	22	158	.342	1	0.03	15	0.52	16	31	1.07	0	1	9	10	0.34	3	0	96.5	3.33
TOTAL		29-9	76	2.62	22	158	.342	1	0.03	15	0.52	16	31	1.07	0	1	9	10	0.34	3	0	96.5	3.33



12 // MALAYNA BOYLES

OH / FR. / 6-1

LANTANA, TEXAS / DENTON GUYER

2026: Saw action against Valparaiso, recording her first collegiate kill.

HIGH SCHOOL:

- Finished her four-year career with 796 kills, 460 digs and 108 blocks.
- Exploded for 399 kills, 308 digs and 36 blocks as a junior, earning First Team All-District honors.
- Named Freshman MVP and helped Denton Guyer reach the 6A Regional Semifinal.

SEASON	TEAM	SM-MP	K	K/S	E	TA	PCT	A	A/S	SA	SA/S	SE	DIG	D/S	RE	BS	BA	TB	B/S	BE	BHE	PTS	PTS/S
2026-27	UC	1-1	1	1.00	0	4	.250	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	1.0	1.00
TOTAL		1-1	1	1.00	0	4	.250	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	1.0	1.00



13 // KAYLA EDGINTON

OH / FR. / 6-2

MALVERN, PA. / ACADEMY OF NOTRE DAME DE NAMUR

2026: Saw action against Santa Clara and Oakland.

HIGH SCHOOL:

- Named 2025 Inter-Ac MVP after earning three straight First Team All-Inter-Ac selections from 2023-25.
- Helped Notre Dame capture back-to-back Inter-Ac and PAISSA championships in 2024 and 2025.
- Served as team captain as a senior and set the school's single-season blocks record as a junior.
- Earned multiple All-Main Line and All-Delco selections.
- Won a PAISSA championship as a freshman.
- Helped East Coast Power win the 2025 Charm City Championship and finish ninth at the USA Girls Junior National Championship.

SEASON	TEAM	SM-MP	K	K/S	E	TA	PCT	A	A/S	SA	SA/S	SE	DIG	D/S	RE	BS	BA	TB	B/S	BE	BHE	PTS	PTS/S
2026-27	UC	2-2	0	0.00	0	1	.000	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.0	0.00
TOTAL		2-2	0	0.00	0	1	.000	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.0	0.00



14 // JULIA HORAN

MB / FR. / 6-2

FAIRFAX, VA. / CHANTILLY

2026: Saw action against Valparaiso.

HIGH SCHOOL:

- Recorded 132 kills and 84 blocks as a junior, earning First Team All-District and Second Team All-Region honors.
- Helped Chantilly capture district and regional championships and finish as a state runner-up.
- Earned Second Team All-District honors as a senior.
- Competed for VA Juniors at the club level.

SEASON	TEAM	SM-MP	K	K/S	E	TA	PCT	A	A/S	SA	SA/S	SE	DIG	D/S	RE	BS	BA	TB	B/S	BE	BHE	PTS	PTS/S
2026-27	UC	1-1	0	0.00	0	1	.000	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.0	0.00
TOTAL		1-1	0	0.00	0	1	.000	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.0	0.00



15 // ELLIOTT MICKELBERRY

MB / SO. / 6-2

LAFAYETTE, COLO. / CENTAURUS

2025:

- Appeared in 18 matches and totaled 56 blocks.
- Recorded five-plus blocks in five matches.
- Set a season high with eight blocks against UCF.
- Posted a season-best five kills against Utah.
- Recorded at least one kill in nine matches.

SEASON	TEAM	SM-MP	K	K/S	E	TA	PCT	A	A/S	SA	SA/S	SE	DIG	D/S	RE	BS	BA	TB	B/S	BE	BHE	PTS	PTS/S
2025-26	UC	56-18	15	0.27	9	41	.146	2	0.04	0	0.00	0	9	0.16	0	5	46	51	0.91	3	0	43.0	0.77
2026-27	UC	1-1	0	0.00	0	0	.000	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.0	0.00
TOTAL		57-19	15	0.26	9	41	.146	2	0.04	0	0.00	1	9	0.16	0	5	46	51	0.89	3	0	43.0	0.75



16 // IZZY BUSIGNANI

OH / SO. / 6-1

ROCHESTER HILLS, MICH. / MARIAN

2026:

- Registered a career-best 16 kills (.406) against Morehead State.
- Notched 15 kills on .500 hitting in a sweep of Oakland.
- Logged 13 kills in a straight-set win over Valparaiso.
- 10-plus kills in four contests.

2025:

- Posted seven kills and five digs in a 3-0 sweep over Houston (11/1/25)

SEASON	TEAM	SM-MP	K	K/S	E	TA	PCT	A	A/S	SA	SA/S	SE	DIG	D/S	RE	BS	BA	TB	B/S	BE	BHE	PTS	PTS/S
2025-26	UC	10-6	17	1.70	11	73	.082	0	0.00	0	0.00	2	8	0.80	0	0	1	1	0.10	1	0	17.5	1.75
2026-27	UC	21-9	75	3.57	30	198	.227	1	0.05	7	0.33	3	33	1.57	8	1	3	4	0.19	1	0	84.5	4.02
TOTAL		31-15	92	2.97	41	271	.188	1	0.03	7	0.23	5	41	1.32	8	1	4	5	0.16	2	0	102.0	3.29



18 // TATJANA SIMEUNOVIĆ

MB / SO. / 6-3
ČAČAK, SERBIA / SCHOOL OF ECONOMIC

- 2026:
- Goes by Tasha.
 - Recorded five kills and two blocks against Oakland.
 - Logged three blocks against Michigan.

- 2025:
- Led Cincinnati with 99 total blocks, adding 73 kills.
 - Recorded five-plus blocks in 10 matches.
 - Produced six-plus kills in four matches.
 - Recorded five digs in three matches.

SEASON	TEAM	SM-MP	K	K/S	E	TA	PCT	A	A/S	SA	SA/S	SE	DIG	D/S	RE	BS	BA	TB	B/S	BE	BHE	PTS	PTS/S
2025-26	UC	91-26	73	0.80	20	183	.290	12	0.13	5	0.05	15	57	0.63	2	14	85	99	1.09	3	0	134.5	1.48
2026-27	UC	11-7	9	0.82	3	27	.222	0	0.00	2	0.18	1	8	0.73	0	1	6	7	0.64	1	0	15.0	1.36
TOTAL		102 - 33	82	0.80	23	210	.281	12	0.12	7	0.07	16	65	0.64	2	15	91	106	1.04	4	0	149.5	1.47



21 // VIKTORIA NINOVA

L / FR. / 5-8
SOFIA, BULGARIA / 2ND SECONDARY SCHOOL "G.S.RAKOVSKI"

- 2026:
- Ranks eighth in the Big 12 with 3.69 digs per set.
 - Set a career high with 18 digs against Michigan and Ball State.
 - Has recorded 10 or more digs in six matches.

- INTERNATIONAL:
- Starred for CSKA Sofia, earning Best Libero honors at the U18, U19 and U20 Bulgarian National Championships.
 - Also earned Best Attacker honors at the U16 level.
 - Has represented Bulgaria at the U17, U18, U19, U20 and senior levels.
 - Named Best Libero at the 2024 U18 Balkan Championship and 2025 U19 World Championship.
 - Won gold at the 2024 U18 European Championship, 2025 U19 Balkan Championship and 2025 U19 World Championship.

SEASON	TEAM	SM-MP	K	K/S	E	TA	PCT	A	A/S	SA	SA/S	SE	DIG	D/S	RE	BS	BA	TB	B/S	BE	BHE	PTS	PTS/S
2026-27	UC	29-9	0	0.00	0	4	.000	24	0.83	12	0.41	22	107	3.69	8	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	12.0	0.41
TOTAL		29 - 9	0	0.00	0	4	.000	24	0.83	12	0.41	22	107	3.69	8	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	12.0	0.41



2026-27 Cincinnati Women's Volleyball
Overall Individual Statistics
All games

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as of Sep 16, 2026

Game Records

Overall	Conference	Home	Away	Neutral
6 - 3	0 - 0	1 - 1	3 - 0	2 - 2

Team Box Score

##	Player	SP	MP-MS	Attack					Set				Serve				
				K	K/S	E	TA	PCT	A	A/S	TA	PCT	SA	SA/S	SE	TA	PCT
1	Ledebuhr, Ava	26	8-1	0	0.00	0	0	.000	4	0.15	16	.250	0	0.00	0	4	1.000
2	Nolan, Sydney	27	9-9	116	4.30	25	283	.322	2	0.07	6	.333	6	0.22	7	91	.923
4	Rome, Audrey	19	8-8	27	1.42	9	58	.310	0	0.00	3	.000	2	0.11	4	28	.857
5	Entenmann, Lilian	19	8-3	19	1.00	7	44	.273	2	0.11	4	.500	0	0.00	8	36	.778
6	Lijic, Kate	29	9-9	10	0.34	8	39	.051	333	11.48	785	.424	10	0.34	5	106	.953
7	Simovski, Andrea	16	7-3	39	2.44	13	104	.250	0	0.00	5	.000	7	0.44	4	58	.931
8	Williams, Ligia	19	7-6	29	1.53	9	61	.328	0	0.00	1	.000	0	0.00	1	2	.500
9	Hostetler, Kayla	22	8-0	0	0.00	0	0	.000	2	0.09	5	.400	0	0.00	0	0	.000
11	Scrucca, Nina	29	9-8	76	2.62	22	158	.342	1	0.03	8	.125	15	0.52	16	126	.873
12	Boyles, Malayna	1	1-0	1	1.00	0	4	.250	0	0.00	0	.000	0	0.00	0	0	.000
13	Edginton, Kayla	2	2-0	0	0.00	0	1	.000	0	0.00	0	.000	0	0.00	0	0	.000
14	Horan, Julia	1	1-0	0	0.00	0	1	.000	0	0.00	0	.000	0	0.00	0	0	.000
15	Mickelberry, Elliott	1	1-0	0	0.00	0	0	.000	0	0.00	0	.000	0	0.00	1	1	.000
16	Busignani, Izzy	21	9-6	75	3.57	30	198	.227	1	0.05	10	.100	7	0.33	3	62	.952
18	Simeunovic, Tatjana	11	7-1	9	0.82	3	27	.222	0	0.00	2	.000	2	0.18	1	34	.971
21	Ninova, Viktoria	29	9-0	0	0.00	0	4	.000	24	0.83	85	.282	12	0.41	22	113	.805
CINCINNATI		29	9-9	401	13.83	126	982	.280	369	12.72	930	.397	61	2.10	72	661	.891
Opponents		29	9-9	359	12.38	137	973	.228	328	11.31	932	.352	50	1.72	68	621	.890

##	Player	SP	Receptions			Dig		Blocking					BHE	Points	
			RE	TA	PCT	DIG	DIG/S	BS	BA	TOTAL	BLK/S	BE		PTS	PTS/S
1	Ledebuhr, Ava	26	8	113	.929	58	2.23	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.0	0.00
2	Nolan, Sydney	27	2	70	.971	50	1.85	1	6	7	0.26	1	0	126.0	4.67
4	Rome, Audrey	19	1	2	.500	7	0.37	1	11	12	0.63	1	0	35.5	1.87
5	Entenmann, Lilian	19	0	1	1.000	7	0.37	2	4	6	0.32	0	0	23.0	1.21
6	Lijic, Kate	29	0	2	1.000	45	1.55	0	9	9	0.31	3	1	24.5	0.84
7	Simovski, Andrea	16	10	87	.885	28	1.75	1	4	5	0.31	0	0	49.0	3.06
8	Williams, Ligia	19	0	1	1.000	5	0.26	4	10	14	0.74	1	0	38.0	2.00
9	Hostetler, Kayla	22	8	76	.895	23	1.05	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.0	0.00
11	Scrucca, Nina	29	0	0	.000	31	1.07	1	9	10	0.34	3	0	96.5	3.33
12	Boyles, Malayna	1	0	1	1.000	0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	1.0	1.00
13	Edginton, Kayla	2	0	0	.000	0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.0	0.00
14	Horan, Julia	1	0	0	.000	0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.0	0.00
15	Mickelberry, Elliott	1	0	0	.000	0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.0	0.00
16	Busignani, Izzy	21	8	82	.902	33	1.57	1	3	4	0.19	1	0	84.5	4.02
18	Simeunovic, Tatjana	11	0	1	1.000	8	0.73	1	6	7	0.64	1	0	15.0	1.36
21	Ninova, Viktoria	29	8	112	.929	107	3.69	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	12.0	0.41
-	TEAM	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CINCINNATI		29	50	553	.910	402	13.86	12	62	43.0	1.48	11	1	505.0	17.41
Opponents		29	61	589	.896	378	13.03	10	90	55.0	1.90	15	1	464.0	16.00