

Fort Lauderdale – Stadium Court Notes – Sunday, July 31, 2022 – Women’s Championship Match

2:00 pm – #8 Tina Graudina / Hailey Harward vs #11 Julia Scoles / Geena Urango

NOTE: The notes below do not include events on the Tour Series unless specifically stated

Head to Head

- This is the first meeting between the teams
- Harward and Scoles are best friends and roommates in “real life”... they were not only teammates at USC but partners on the court (went 10-1 on court two together during the 2021 season)
- Harward and Scoles played one AVP event together, finishing in 17th place in Manhattan Beach 2021
- All 4 of these players played at Southern Cal
- Graudina has never faced either of her two opponents while being a pro... Scoles and Urango as teammates defeated Harward (and Falyn Fonoimoana) 21-15, 21-14 in Hermosa Beach in the only previous meeting between Harward and her opponents today as a pro

Title Tidbits

- The last two AVP Pro Series events had championship matches pitting the top-seeded and second-seeded teams... prior to this it happened just once in the previous 34 AVP tournaments (Chicago 2019)... now seeds 8 and 11 battle for the title
- There have been just 5 previous AVP tournaments which have been won by teams seeded 8th or lower (and according to the trend it’s not supposed to happen again until 2023):
 - 2013 Cincinnati - #14 Emily Day / Summer Ross
 - 2015 Huntington Beach - #11 Lauren Fendrick / April Ross
 - 2017 Chicago - #12 Kelly Cheng / Sara Hughes
 - 2019 Manhattan Beach - #11 Melissa Humana-Paredes / Sarah Pavan
 - 2021 Atlanta - #14 Taryn Kloth / Kristen Nuss
- 14 of the last 16 AVP title matches have been sweeps... in each of the last 16 AVP championship matches, the team winning the first set won the match
- 7 of the last 9 AVP winning teams were seeded #1 (the two exceptions in that span were in Atlanta 2021 and Austin 2022 when Kloth / Nuss won both times)
- Women’s teams that have won while playing together for the first time on the AVP:

Location	Season	Team	Date
Clearwater	1984	Linda Hanley / Nina Matthies	6/4/1984
Chicago	1984	Linda Hanley / Dale Keough	8/12/1984
Phoenix	1993	Holly McPeak / Angela Rock	4/18/1993
Austin	1993	Linda Chisholm / Jackie Silva	5/2/1993
San Antonio	1993	Holly McPeak / Cammy Ciarelli	5/9/1993
Fort Worth	1993	Nancy Reno / Linda Chisholm	5/16/1993
San Diego	1993	Nancy Reno / Cammy Ciarelli	5/23/1993
Cleveland	1993	Holly McPeak / Linda Chisholm	6/6/1993
Seaside Heights	1993	Nancy Reno / Holly McPeak	6/13/1993
Clearwater	1999	Liz Masakayan / Elaine Youngs	5/2/1999
Hermosa Beach	2001	Holly McPeak / Lisa Arce	6/10/2001
Santa Barbara	2001	Liz Masakayan / Dianne DeNecochea	8/19/2001
Huntington Beach	2002	Elaine Youngs / Holly McPeak	5/26/2002
Fort Lauderdale	2003	Misty May-Treanor / Kerri Walsh Jennings	4/6/2003
Glendale	2009	Larissa Franca / Juliana Felisberta	9/27/2009
Fort Lauderdale	2010	Misty May-Treanor / Nicole Branagh	4/18/2010
Cincinnati	2013	Emily Day / Summer Ross	9/2/2013
Santa Barbara	2013	Kerri Walsh Jennings / April Ross	9/29/2013
Huntington Beach	2015	Lauren Fendrick / April Ross	9/13/2015
Austin	2018	Alix Klineman / April Ross	5/20/2018
New York	2018	Summer Ross / Sara Hughes	6/10/2018
Atlanta	2021	Taryn Kloth / Kristen Nuss	8/15/2021

Title Tidbits cont'd

- The combined seeds (19) for the two championship teams (8 and 11) are the highest ever for a women's title match on the AVP Tour... the previous most was 18 in Austin 2019, when the 14th seed defeated the 5th seed for the title
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Graudina / Harward are playing together for the 1st time ever

- The duo is trying to replicate the success Kloth and Nuss had last year in Atlanta, winning in their first event together... Kloth / Nuss were the 12th women's team since the start of the 2001 season to win in their first time as partners on the AVP Tour
- Harward and Graudina were teammates and partners in beach volleyball at USC... in 2022 the pair had a 31-2 mark on court one as USC won the National Championship
- The duo is 4-0 in AVP matches... they are 3-0 when winning the first set, and 1-0 when losing the first set... they are 2-0 in three-set matches

Tina Graudina – age 24 – 6'0" – hometown Riga, Latvia – currently Los Angeles, Calif. – Southern Cal

- Graudina is playing in her 2nd AVP event ever (placed 9th in Manhattan Beach 2021 with Megan Kraft)
- Graudina was part of Latvia's first ever women's team to compete in beach volleyball Olympics in Tokyo

Hailey Harward – age 24 – 5'9" – hometown Phoenix, Ariz. – currently Phoenix, Ariz. – Long Beach State / Southern Cal

- This is Harward's 10th AVP event with her 8th different partner
 - New Orleans 2022 was her previous career best (3rd place with Emily Day)... the duo reached the semifinals despite losing their first round match, winning 4 straight contender's bracket matches (one by forfeit)... in Fort Lauderdale she has chosen to reach the championship match by staying in the winner's bracket
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Scoles / Urango are playing together for the 4th time on the AVP Tour

- The duo has been in the semifinals in each of their tournaments as partners
- They placed 2nd in Muskegon, then 3rd in both Denver and Hermosa Beach
- Together they have a 16-5 match record on the AVP... they are 12-2 when winning the first set, and 4-3 when losing the first set... they are 8-4 in three-set matches
- In Fort Lauderdale each of their last 5 matches has gone to a third set... they have won the last 4 three-set matches, all of which were elimination matches

Julia Scoles – age 25 – 6'1" – hometown Mooresville, N.C. – currently Mooresville, N.C. – North Carolina / Hawai'i / Southern Cal

- This is Scoles' 8th AVP event with her 5th different partner
- Scoles played her first 4 AVP events with 4 different partners, losing in the qualifier the first 3 times and going 0-2 in the main draw in the fourth... she entered this season with an 0-2 main draw match record and has gone 16-5 this year with Urango

Geena Urango – age 32 – 5'11" – hometown Los Alamitos, Calif. – hometown Los Alamitos, Calif. – Southern Cal

- Urango is playing in her 55th AVP Tournament... this marks her 13th different partner
- Urango has now advanced to 15 AVP semifinals, with 6 seconds and 8 thirds... her last trip to the semis before this season came in Hermosa Beach in July 2018... Fort Lauderdale marks her 4th consecutive tournament reaching the semifinals
- Urango's pro beach volleyball debut came in 2006 alongside Alix Klineman (finished in 57th place)
- Urango on the AVP Tour: first 15 events with a best of 3rd once; next 22 events advanced to 10 semifinals; then 14 events with a best of 5th once; now 4 straight events with a 3rd or better