

Atlanta – Stadium Court Notes – Friday, August 5, 2022 – Match 5

5:25 pm – #2 Sara Hughes / Kelley Kolinske vs #15 Megan Gebhard / Kahlee York

Head to Head

- This is the first meeting between the two teams and none of the players have played each other previously

Hughes / Kolinske are playing together for the 4th time on the AVP Tour and 10th time overall

- They played in 6 FIVB events this year, improving from 9th to 5th to winning a gold medal in the Itapema (Brazil) Challenge on April 17... the duo also placed 5th in the World Championships in Rome in June
- In capturing the FIVB title in April, the duo beat 5 Olympians, including 2016 Silver Medalist Barbara Seixas
- On the AVP they have placed 5th in Austin and then 3rd in both New Orleans and Fort Lauderdale
- 4 of their 6 match losses this season have come to teams seeded either first or second
- On the AVP Tour they are 8-6 in matches, 8-0 when winning the first set and 0-6 when losing the first set... they are 2-2 in three-set matches

Sara Hughes – age 27 – 6'2" – hometown Costa Mesa, Calif. – currently Costa Mesa, Calif. – Southern Cal

- This is Hughes' 31st AVP event with 8 different partners... she has 3 wins, 4 seconds and 10 thirds... last win was Hermosa Beach 2018
- Hughes has been in the semifinals in 17 of her 29 AVP events completed (57%), and in the championship match 7 times (23%)
- Hughes got all 3 of her AVP wins consecutively (2017 season-ender, first two events of 2018) during a span in which she advanced to the semifinals in 8 straight AVP tournaments and 5 straight finals

Kelley Kolinske – age 30 – 6'2" – hometown San Diego, Calif. – currently Jamul, Calif. – Pepperdine

- Kolinske is playing in her 36th AVP Tournament with 4 different partners... she has 3 wins, 3 seconds, 6 thirds... her victories came in 2015 (Mason), 2017 (San Francisco) and 2019 (Seattle)
- Kolinske played just once in 2014 (9th place), but since then has advanced to the semifinals at least once in each of the last 8 seasons, including to a championship match in 4 different years

Gebhard / York are playing together for the 3rd time on the AVP Tour

- Duo qualified for New Orleans after finishing 5th in the San Antonio qualifier... they placed 13th in New Orleans and then 5th in Atlantic City... in Atlantic City their last 4 matches all went to a third set
- Including qualifiers, they are 4-4 in matches on the AVP Tour... they are 3-2 when winning the first set and 1-2 when losing the first set... they are 2-3 in three-set matches

Megan Gebhard – age 27 – 6'1" – hometown Howell, Mich. – currently Hermosa Beach, Calif. – MIT

- This is Gebhard's 10th AVP event with her 6th different partner... she played her first 3 AVP events with Katie Lindstrom, and Atlanta marks the first time since then playing consecutive tournaments with the same partner
- New Orleans was her first ever AVP main draw and Atlanta is now her 5th straight event in the main draw
- In 5 of her previous 6 AVP tournaments, she was eliminated in a three-set match (including 3 times after winning the first set)
- In Chicago 2019, Gebhard (and Katie Lindstrom) lost to current AVP writer Kimberly Smith, which ended up being Smith's last AVP main draw

Kahlee York – age 23 – 5'11" – hometown Lakewood Ranch, Fla. – currently Bradenton, Fla. – Louisiana State

- This is York's 9th AVP event with her 4th different partner (although in one event her team forfeited their only qualifier match so she never played)
- York made her AVP debut in Atlanta last year (lost in the first round of the qualifier with Toni Rodriguez)... this year in Atlanta she is playing in her 5th consecutive AVP main draw