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IRINA-CAMELIA BEGU (ROU #74) VS. [2] ANETT KONTAVEIT (EST #30)

Head-to-head: First meeting

BEGU	KONTAVEIT		
Career Prize Money	\$5,906,341	Career Prize Money	\$5,455,395
Plays	Right-handed	Plays	Right-handed
Date of Birth (Age)	Aug. 25, 1990 (31)	Date of Birth (Age)	Dec. 24, 1995 (25)
Singles Titles	4	Singles Titles	1
YTD / Career W-L (MD)	13-10 / 191-193	YTD / Career W-L (MD)	23-14 / 164-119
3-Set W-L (YTD / Career)	2-1 / 72-57	3-Set W-L (YTD / Career)	8-6 / 51-40
Tie-Break W-L (YTD / Career)	5-6 / 46-48	Tie-Break W-L (YTD / Career)	3-3 / 40-35
Hard Court W-L (YTD / Career)	10-7 / 92-107	Hard Court W-L (YTD / Career)	18-10 / 108-79
Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)	0-4 / 6-35	Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)	2-4 / 13-25
Coach	Victor Crivoi	Coach	Ain Suurthal

BEGU:

Cleveland

- Playing in first edition of the tournament – is the only Romanian woman in the draw
- This week, beat No.3 seed Alexandrova in 1r, Hercog 2r, Sasnovich in QF and Linette in SF without dropping a set
- Faces No.2 seed Kontaveit today in her first final since since winning title at 2017 Bucharest
- Career record in WTA finals stands at 4-3 (3-1 on hard). Three hard court titles came at 2012 Tashkent, 2015 Seoul and 2016 Florianopolis
- Owns 6-6 record against Top-50 opposition this season
- One of two Romanians competing at Cleveland this year (also Mitu)
- In only appearance during last year's US summer swing, fell 1r at US Open (I. Kvitova)
- Draw to face Petkovic in 1r of US Open on Monday

Season

- Contested qualifying at Cincinnati
- Fell 1r at Budapest (I. Schmiedlova) and 2r at Gdynia (I. Kawa)
- Only grass tournament played this season has been Wimbledon reaching 3r for the second time in her career (I. Swiatek)
- Clay court season began with exits in 1r at Madrid (as qualifier, I. Kasatkina in 3s) and qualifying at Rome
- Suffered 1r exits at Dubai (s qualifier, I. eventual champion Muguruza) and Miami (I. Kalinskaya)

- Also advanced to QF at the Phillip Island Trophy (I. Andreescu), after falling in 1r at Australian Open (I. Stojanovic)
- Kicked off season with first hard court QF since 2019 at Gippsland Trophy (I. No.3 Osaka); saved 2MP in second set tie-break with Konta during 3r – at 3h35m this was longer than any match on Tour in 2020

Career Milestones

- Shortly after Tour's resumption in August 2020, made first WTA SF in over two years at Prague (I. eventual champion Halep); win over No.43 Sevastova in 1r was first over a Top 50 player since 2018 Roland Garros; also reached 2r at Roland Garros in September (I. Halep)
- Best results of 2019 were 3r showing at Roland Garros (I. Anisimova) and three QF runs at Hobart (I. Schmiedlova), Budapest (I. Vondrousova) and Bucharest (I. Siegemund)
- Reached two singles SFs - Shenzhen and Istanbul - and one QF in 2018. Also defeated No.5 Ostapenko at 2018 Madrid for second Top 5 win of career having also beaten No.4 Muguruza at 2016 Madrid
- Won two doubles titles in 2018 – Shenzhen and Bucharest – finishing the year at a career-best No.23 in the WTA Doubles Rankings. Reached SF stage of 2018 Australian Open doubles event w/Niculescu
- Highlight of 2017 was lifting fourth singles title of her career at Bucharest without dropping a set (d. Goerges in F); also took home the doubles trophy without dropping a set w/Olaru
Also in 2017 reached two SFs: Istanbul (I. Mertens) and Moscow (I. Kasatkina), and one QF at Charleston (I. eventual champion Kasatkina)
- Represented Romania at 2016 Rio Olympics, making 1r exits in singles (I. Hibino) and doubles (w/Niculescu, I. Chan/Chan)
- Posted career-best singles ranking at No.22 (August 22, 2016)
- Other notable results in 2016 included SF at Rome (I. S.Williams), QF at Charleston (I. Kerber) and QF at Madrid (I. Halep)
- In run to QF at 2016 Madrid was one of four Romanians for reach QF – which was first time this had occurred at a Premier Mandatory event (also Halep, Cirstea and Tig). Secured two milestones during Madrid: career-best win vs. No.4 Muguruza, and 300th match win of career (all levels) with 3r defeat of McHale
- Struggled with right shoulder injury in 2013 – first felt pain at 2013 Australian Open and missed three months of action
- Reached 2r on Grand Slam main draw debut at 2011 Roland Garros (d. Rezaï, I. Kuznetsova)
- Appeared in first two WTA finals in 2011, at Mallorca (I. Azarenka) and then Budapest (I. Vinci). Voted WTA Newcomer of the Year in 2011 (media vote)
- Made WTA main draw debut at 2009 Budapest (fell in 1r to Peer)
- Holds 12 singles titles and 19 doubles titles on ITF Circuit

KONTAVEIT:**Cleveland**

- Appearing in inaugural edition of tournament
- This week, has beaten Davis, Garcia, Siniakova and Sorribes Tormo to reach her third final of the season (also Grampians Trophy – title shared w/Li; Eastbourne – I. Ostapenko)
- Faces No.74 Begu in today's final; solitary loss to a player ranked outside Top 50 this season came to No.57 Rogers at Australian Open
- Career win-loss record in WTA finals is 1-6. Three of these finals came on hard courts: 2017 Biel (I. Vondrousova), 2018 Wuhan (I. Sabalenka) and 2021 Grampians Trophy (shared w/Li)
- Only Estonian in the draw
- Has reached three WTA hard-court finals, including R-Up finish at 2018 Wuhan
- During last year's US hard-court swing, made QF at Western & Southern Open and R16 at US Open
- Drawn to face former champion Stosur in 1r of upcoming US Open

Season

- Fell 1r at the Olympics (I. Sakkari), Montréal (I. Pegula) and Cincinnati (I. Jabeur)
- On grass, finished R-Up at Eastbourne (I. Ostapenko) and fell 1r at Wimbledon (I. Vondrousova)
- Made 3r at Roland Garros (I. Swiatek)
- Advanced to QF at Stuttgart (d. No.4 Kenin in 2r, I. Sabalenka) and then fell 2r at Madrid (I. Sakkari)
- Reached 3r at Dubai (I. Sabalenka) and Miami (I. Mertens)
- Produced QF run at Doha (I. eventual champion Kvitova in 3s)
- Posted 3r showing at Australian Open (I. Rogers) after reaching the Grampians Trophy final (the final was not played)
- Opened 2021 season with 1r exit at Abu Dhabi (I. Kudermetova)

Career Milestones

- During an interrupted 2020, reached sixth final of career at Palermo (I. Ferro) and posted 21 match wins across the season (joint-fifth most, level with Jabeur)
- Made Grand Slam breakthrough by reaching maiden major QF at Australian Open (I. Halep), becoming the first Estonian to make the last eight at Australian Open, also the first Estonian to reach a Grand Slam QF since Kanepi at 2017 US Open
- Finished 2019 ranked No.26 despite missing final two months of the season w/viral illness
- Reached her fifth career final in 2019 at Stuttgart (I. Kvitova). Also in 2019, advanced to her first Premier Mandatory SF at Miami (I. eventual champion Barty), which propelled her to a career high ranking of No.14 (April 1, 2019)
- In 2018, season highlighted by fourth WTA singles final at Wuhan (I. Sabalenka); posted 33 main draw wins – the first time she had registered 30 or more wins in a season
- Breakthrough season came in 2017, winning first career singles title at 2017 's-Hertogenbosch (d. Vikhlyantseva in F). Also reached finals at Biel/Benne (I. Vondrousova) and Gstaad (I. Bertens)
- Broke into Top 30 for first time at No.27 following run at Gstaad (July 24, 2017)

MATCH NOTES: TENNIS IN THE LAND

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- Posted her first career win over a reigning No.1 with defeat of Kerber at 2017 Rome
- In 2016, played main draw at all four Grand Slams for first time, but dropped out of Top 100
- Made Top 100 debut on September 14, 2015 at No.96, up from No.152. One of five teenagers in 2015 year-end Top 100
- Scored first Top 20 win of career over No.17 Errani at 2016 Monterrey (2r)
- Made WTA main draw debut at 2013 Miami as WC (I. McHale, 1r)
- Played first events of career on ITF Circuit in 2010; owns 11 singles titles and five doubles titles on ITF Circuit
Junior highlights included winning 2011 Orange Bowl, defeating Bouchard and Putintseva en route