



25 NORTH CENTRAL KANSAS VOLLEYBALL PLAYERS TO WATCH



Ryann Alderson

RYANN ALDERSON, WAMEGO

Alderson helped lead Wamego to a 25-13 record and top-eight finish at state last year as the Red Raiders won their Class 4A sub-state at Holton before falling to Miego in the quarterfinals. The 5-foot-6 senior enters her third year as Wamego's setter and recorded 523 assists last year while sharing those duties after dishing out 790 assists as a sophomore. Alderson took on a bigger attack role last season, putting up 98 kills and also having a career-high 24 blocks. She was a first-team All-North Central Kansas League selection.

CEEGAN ATKINS, HANOVER

Atkins was a driving force behind Hanover's first state championship since 1979 as the Wildcats captured the Class 1A Division II title. A junior, Atkins led the Wildcats in kills last year as a sophomore with 331, hitting at a .311 clip with a 42.1 kill percentage. She added 53 blocks and 497 digs and was named the Class 1A Division II player of the year by the Kansas Volleyball Association after also earning first-team All-Twin Valley League honors.



Ceeagan Atkins

DREW BAXTER, SEAMAN

Baxter helped lead the Vikings to a 22-4 record last season and will become the focal point of the Viking attack this year after the graduation of two-time City Player of the year Camryn Turner. Even in handling a bulk of the team's setting duties, recording a team-high 424 assists, Baxter still ranked second on the team in kills last year with 212, posting a 38.1 kill percentage. She also added 44 aces and 117 digs on her way to first-team All-Centennial League honors. A starter since her freshman year, Baxter recorded 279 kills as a sophomore and has 590 in her career.



Drew Baxter

CAITLIN BISHOP, LANSING

As Lansing's primary setter, Bishop helped lead the Lions to a runner-up finish in Class 5A last season, dropping a 25-13, 26-24 decision to St. Thomas Aquinas in the championship match. Bishop recorded 987 assists (second in the state overall) and added 32 aces and 62 kills in earning first-team All-United Kansas Conference and first-team All-Class 5A honors. A starter since her freshman year, Bishop has helped Lansing post a 103-15 record in that span, including an undefeated UKC mark, as well as third-place finishes at state in 2018 and 2019. Bishop enters her senior season with 2,023 career assists.



Caitlin Bishop

LILY BOUGHFMAN, LITTLE RIVER

Ever since stepping foot on the court as a freshman, Boughfman has been a power for Little River. She recorded 324 kills as a sophomore and then missed that total by just one last year as a junior, pounding out 323 kills in 10 fewer sets. The 6-foot-1 senior is versatile on the court, also recording 276 digs each of the past two seasons and tallying 117 aces over that same span. A three-time first-team All-Wheat State League selection, Boughfman was an honorable mention All-Class 1A Division I selection the past two seasons. She's also a basketball standout for the Redskins, earning multiple all-league honors.



Lily Boughfman

LEAH COOK, SILVER LAKE

Cook stepped right in as a freshman in 2019 and was a key weapon as Silver Lake finished third at the Class 3A state tournament, recording 111 kills that season. Last year, she took on an even bigger role and ranked third on the Eagles in kills with 180 in just 67 sets. Cook earned honorable mention All-Mid-East League honors. She is coming off right shoulder surgery in the offseason, but is a full go for the 2021 season.

Leah Cook



Brooklyn DeLeye

BROOKLYN DELEYE, WASHBURN RURAL

One of the top players in the state since her freshman year, DeLeye has helped Rural to a pair of top-three finishes at the Class 6A state tournament, including a third-place finish last year after a runner-up showing in 2019. She finished her sophomore year with a whopping 536 kills. She is already over the 1,000-kill mark in her career and last year posted a .368 kill efficiency. DeLeye, a basketball standout as well, is a two-time All-City, All-Centennial League and All-Class 6A selection and has already committed to reigning NCAA champion Kentucky for volleyball.

AVERY DETERS, CENTRALIA

A 5-foot-7 senior outside hitter, Deters was Centralia's top hitter a year ago, leading the Panthers to a 15-10 record. Hitting at a high percentage, Deters pounded out 302 kills and also served 95% for the season. She earned first-team All-Twin Valley League honors and was a first-team All-Class 1A Division I selection by the Kansas Volleyball Association.

Avery Deters



Kaleigh Guhr

KALEIGH GUHR, GOESSEL

A 5-foot-1 senior setter, Guhr is a two-time first-team All-Wheat State League selection for the Bluebirds who earned honorable mention All-Class 1A Division I selection last year as a junior. She has recorded 600-plus assists the past two seasons, including 627 as a sophomore and 606 last year, and enters her senior season with 1,538 career assists. Guhr has started since her freshman season and also has 168 career aces and 562 career digs.

KALI HENRY, SHAWNEE HEIGHTS

Coming off a big sophomore season that saw her rack up 214 kills and 40 blocks, Henry was expected to be a major weapon for the T-Birds a year ago, but a severe ankle sprain sidelined her for a big part of her junior season, limiting her to just 29 sets. When on the court, she delivered, recording 64 kills with a 32.2 kill percentage. A contributor since her freshman season, Henry still managed to earn second-team All-United Kansas Conference honors for the second straight year.



Kali Henry



Addy Holthaus

ADDY HOLTHAUS, NEMAHA CENTRAL

On teams loaded with upperclassmen, Holthaus came in and made an impact as a freshman in 2019 and simply built on that last year as a sophomore. After racking up 140 kills as a freshman, Holthaus led the Thunder in kills last year with 240. She also ranked first on the team in digs (322), second in aces (32) and third in blocks (54), earning first-team All-Big Seven League honors and second-team All-Class 3A honors.

GRACEY JANES, DESOTO

A 5-foot-8 senior, Janes became one of DeSoto's top players as a sophomore when she cracked the starting lineup as an outside hitter/setter and delivered a team-high 168 kills and 264 assists. Last season, she transitioned into one of the Wildcats' primary attackers and once again led the team with 234 kills. Janes also led the team in aces (31) and digs (287) and was a first-team All-United Kansas Conference selection. A Missouri State commit, Janes is coming off a torn ACL suffered during the club season, but should be back sometime in September for the Wildcats.



Gracey Janes

EMILY KREBS, SABETHA



Emily Krebs

Krebs served as the quarterback for Sabetha's first-ever state championship volleyball team as the Bluejays captured their first crown by winning the Class 3A state title last year. Sabetha finished with a state-best 41-1 record with Krebs directing an attack that produced 1,172 kills and a team kill percentage of 33.0%. Krebs finished with 965 assists, ranking fourth in the state in that category. She was also deadly at the service line, having only one error in 463 serves, finishing with 20 aces. A unanimous All-Big Seven League selection and first-team pick for the second straight year, Krebs earned second-team All-Class 3A honors from the Kansas Volleyball Association.

ADIE MANVILLE, JEFFERSON COUNTY NORTH

A four-year starter at setter, Manville has helped lead the Chargers to two straight Class 2A state tournaments as well as two Northeast Kansas League titles in the past three seasons, not to mention three straight 30-win seasons. The 5-foot-10 senior setter/middle hitter led the Chargers last year in assists with 456, while also recording 212 kills, 55 blocks, 209 digs and 35 aces. As a sophomore she had 110 assists and 70 kills. A first-team all-league performer last year, Manville's leaping explosiveness has also helped her to Class 2A state high jump championship the past two springs.



Adie Manville



McKenzie McMahon

MCKENZIE MCMAHON, JACKSON HEIGHTS

McMahon and her Cobra teammates should be chomping at the bit to get the 2020 season going after COVID-19 protocols denied them a chance of competing in last year's postseason. A first-team All-Northeast Kansas League selection last year, McMahon ranked third on the team in kills with 144, but posted a team-high 41.1 kill percentage. She also ranked second in blocks with 65. A four-year starter for Heights, McMahon has topped 100 kills each of her first three seasons and has 370 in her career, posting a career kill percentage of 41%, and also has 218 career blocks.

ABBY PEEK, LEBO

The daughter of Lebo coach Gina Peek, Abby Peek has been a starter since her freshman season and helped the Wolves to a runner-up finish in Class 1A Division I last year. The 5-foot-5 senior setter has recorded more than 500 assists each of the past two seasons, including a career-best 620 last year. She has 1,349 career assists, 326 career kills, 772 career digs and 124 career aces and was a first-team All-Class 1A Division I selection last year while also earning her second straight unanimous All-Lyon County League selection.



Abby Peek



Kinsey Perine

KINSEY PERINE, ROSSVILLE

Perine was an impact freshman for Rossville last season, helping the Bulldawgs to a 25-10 record. A 5-foot-7 outside hitter, Perine packed a lot of punch in her first season, leading Rossville in kills with 263. She also ranked second on the team with 37 blocks and added 34 aces and 241 digs, earning unanimous first-team All-Mid-East League honors.

TAYLOR RUSSELL, WASHBURN RURAL

Russell had a big sophomore season for the Junior Blues, helping Washburn Rural post a 35-6 record and a third-place finish in the 6A state tournament. Russell recorded 305 kills with .291 kill efficiency while registering 12 blocks and serving at 92.5% with 51 aces. Russell also added 191 digs and earned second-team All-Centennial League and second-team All-Class 6A honors while being a first-team All-City selection.



Taylor Russell



Jacey Schurle

JACEY SCHURLE, CLAY CENTER

Schurle emerged as a big presence at the net last year as Clay Center's middle blocker after a solid sophomore season in 2019. The 5-foot-9 senior led the team in blocks last year with 88 and was second in kills with 131, earning first-team All-North Central Kansas League honors. She helped lead the Tigers to the league title and a 26-7 mark overall as Clay Center captured a Class 4A sub-state championship before falling to McPherson in the state quarterfinals. As a sophomore Schurle had 127 kills and 44 blocks.

LAUREN SCHUTTER, WABAUNSEE

After being a key performer on Wabaunsee's 2019 Class 2A state championship team, Schutter powered the Chargers to a third-place finish at last year's state tournament. Posting a scorching kill percentage of 47.2% and .358 hitting percentage, Schutter blasted out 438 kills, nearly double the second-highest Charger's total. When she wasn't on the attack, she was denying the opposition, recording 179 blocks, 74 of those solos. Schutter also had 210 kills as a sophomore on the title team and is a two-time first-team All-Mid-East League pick and two-time first-team All-Class 2A selection by the Kansas Volleyball Association. The 6-foot-1 senior, who won a Class 2A state long jump title last spring and a triple jump title in 2020, has committed to Illinois State.



Lauren Schutter



Cat Toerber

CAT TOERBER, VALLEY HEIGHTS

A varsity contributor since day one, Toerber took over as Heights' main setter as a sophomore and over the past two seasons has recorded more than 1,600 assists. After having 895 as a sophomore, Toerber added 768 last year in leading the Mustangs to a 31-6 record and second straight Twin Valley League championship. All six losses came to state-tournament teams. Toerber, a 5-foot-7 senior, added 172 digs, 40 kills and 20 blocks last year and was a first-team all-league selection.

MAKENZIE TRAVIS, BELOIT

A four-year starter, Travis has been a huge part of Beloit's success of the past several years, helping the Trojans to a combined 99-21 record (34-0 in league play) and a pair of top-three finishes at the Class 3A state tournament, including a runner-up finish in 2019 when the Trojans went 41-4 to set a school record for wins. A 5-foot-9 setter/opposite hitter, Travis has recorded at least 500 assists each of her first three seasons, including 594 last year (7.8 per set). She added 130 kills as a junior after recording 137 as a sophomore. Travis has been a first-team All-North Central Activities Association pick all three years and was honorable mention All-Class 3A last season.



Makenzie Travis



Olivia Mae van der Werff

OLIVIA MAE VAN DER WERFF, LANSING

After playing a complementary role as a sophomore to Lansing All-Staters Karli Schmidt and Caroline Crawford, van der Werff stepped up to take the lead role in the Lions' attack last year as a junior. Her 385 kills were tops on the team by 184 kills and she posted a kill percentage of 43.5 with just 120 errors on 885 attempts. She was named the United Kansas Conference player of the year and also earned first-team All-Class 5A honors from the Kansas Volleyball Association, leading Lansing to a runner-up finish at the Class 5A state tournament and 27-4 overall record.

JENNA WALTERS, WEST FRANKLIN

West Franklin put together the best season in program history a year ago, finishing with a 35-6 record and taking third at the Class 3A state tournament. And Walters had a huge hand in it. She ranked third on the team in kills with 240, second in digs with 260 and fourth in aces with 46. Walters, a 5-foot-6 senior, will team with junior Nellie LaFountain to give the Falcons a strong 1-2 punch to build around this season. A three-year starter who has had at least 200 kills all three seasons (706 career), Walters was a first-team All-Flint Hills League selection last year.



Jenna Walters



Daelynn Winters

DAEYLYN WINTERS, BURLINGAME

Winters has been a huge part of Burlingame's rise to power in three sports – volleyball, basketball and softball. A starter in all three sports since her freshman year, she has helped Burlingame go 49-16 in volleyball over the past two seasons, including a 27-3 mark last season that ended with a sub-state loss to eventual Class 1A Division I state runner-up Lebo. A hitter and setter for the Bearcats, Winters ranked second on the team in both kills (170) and assists (255) and first in aces (46). Winters has had at least 70 kills each of her first three seasons (347 for her career) and more than 200 assists each of the last two seasons (539 total). She was a unanimous All-Lyon County League selection and second-team All-Class 1A Division I pick by the Kansas Volleyball Association.