



## 25 WESTERN KANSAS VOLLEYBALL PLAYERS TO WATCH



*Anna Godek*

### **ANNA GODEK, WHEATLAND-GRINNELL**

Godek dished out 675 assists for Wheatland-Grinnell last year as a junior, helping the Thunderhawks take fourth place in Class 1A Division II. She was a second-team KVA all-state selection last year and was a first-team pick in the Western Kansas Liberty League. Godek will be a senior leader for the Thunderhawks, who finished with a 24-20 mark last year.

### **ADDI HEINSON, KIOWA COUNTY**

The 5-foot-8 outside hitter led Kiowa County in kills with 352 last year, averaging 5 kills per set. She was honorable mention on the KVA 1A Division I all-state team and was a first-team All-SPIAA selection. Heinson is one of several returners for the Mavericks, who are looking to back bounce from their first losing season since 1989 after being slowed by injuries and COVID-19 issues a year ago.



*Addi Heinson*

## **BREE HORYNA, LIBERAL**

Horyna was the only non-senior to make the All-Western Athletic Conference team last year. The 5-foot-8 outside hitter was second on the team in kills last year with 230, averaging 2.9 per set. She had double-digit kills in eight matches, posting a pair of 14-kill matches. Horyna will be a senior leader for Liberal, which finished 14-18 a year ago.

*Bree Horyna*



*Camryn Hutchinson*

## **CAMRYN HUTCHINSON, SMITH CENTER**

Smith Center coach Nick Linn said Hutchinson quickly established herself as the floor general for the Lady Red last year as a freshman. The setter finished with 550 assists last year, averaging 5.9 per set. She was a second-team pick on the All-Mid Continent League volleyball team. The Lady Red reached the 2A final last year, falling to Heritage Christian and finishing 35-8.

## **KEELI KNOBBE, SYLVAN-LUCAS**

The 5-foot-10 middle hitter finished with 206 kills, 42 blocks, 340 digs and 40 aces last year as a sophomore. Knobbe was a first-team pick on the All-Northern Plains team. She helped the Mustangs go 33-3 last year. Sylvan-Lucas will be looking for its fourth state tournament appearance and first since 2017.

*Keeli Knobbe*



*Emilee Lane*

## **EMILEE LANE, TMP-MARIAN**

The 6-foot outside hitter is a three-time first-team Mid-Continent League selection and a two-time KVA All-State selection in Class 3A, earning second-team honors in each of the last two years. Lane notched 469 kills for the Monarchs last year, averaging 4.9 per set. She ranked top 10 in the state in kills per set in each of the last two seasons. She will be a senior leader for the Monarchs, who are coming off a 30-8 season and state tournament appearance.

### **EMMA LEHMAN, GOODLAND**

The 5-foot-11 rightside hitter finished with 203 kills and a .203 hitting percentage for the Cowgirls last year as a junior. She added 50 blocks, 100 digs and 81 aces. Lehman was a first-team all-league pick in the Great West Activities Association, helping Goodland go 34-10 and take fourth place in Class 3A. Lehman is one of five returning starters for the Cowgirls.



*Emma Lehman*

### **OLIVIA LEHMAN, GOODLAND**



*Olivia Lehman*

The Cowgirls' junior setter is coming off a season in which she totaled 542 assists, 179 kills, 210 digs, 66 aces and 39 blocks. She was named to the KVA 3A All-State Tournament team after helping Goodland place at state for their time in school history. She was a first-team selection on the Great West Activities Association all-league team.

### **ASHLYN LONG, SMITH CENTER**

Ashlyn Long, a 5-10 senior middle hitter, notched 406 kills, 260 digs and 33 blocks for the Class 2A runner-up Lady Red last year. Long was a KVA second-team All-State pick last year and a first-team All-MCL selection. She was also named to the 2A all-state tournament team.



*Ashlyn Long*

### **PAYTON MEYER, ST. JOHN**



*Payton Meyer*

The Tigers' setter was a second-team KVA All-State pick and was named to the Class 1A Division All-State Tournament team after helping St. John place third. Meyer was a second-team All-Central Prairie League pick last year as a junior. She totaled 722 assists last year, averaging 7.8 per set.



### **KASSIE MILLER, GOLDEN PLAINS**

A senior outside hitter and setter, Miller has been a starter and six-rotation player for the Bulldogs for her entire career. She is a two-time first-team selection to the Western Kansas Liberty All-League team and was named to the KVA 1A DII All-State second team last year. She finished her junior year with 240 kills, 70 aces, 271 assists and 297 digs.



*Kassi Miller*

### **MIA MORROW, ST. FRANCIS**

Morrow was a first-team KVA All-State selection in Class 1A Division I last year as a junior. She totaled 288 kills last year, averaging 3.3 kills per set. Morrow finished with 71 aces and 286 digs. She helped the Indians go 28-7 last year.



*Mia Morrow*

### **KASSIDY NIXON, CENTRAL PLAINS**

The 2020 Class 1A Division I KVA Player of the Year, Nixon will look to lead Central Plains to its third straight state championship. The senior does it all for the Oilers, listed as a middle hitter, setter and defensive specialist. She finished with 511 kills last year, averaging 4.8 set. She also had 296 digs and 394 assists.



*Kassidy Nixon*

### **CAMERON OFFERLE, SPEARVILLE**

Offerle, a junior, was a SPIAA All-League selection in 2020 and honorable mention all-league in 2019. She was selected to the 2A KVA All-State Tournament team last year. Spearville coach Syble Thompson says Offerle is an aggressive player who plays with no fear or hesitation.



*Cameron Offerle*



*Rylan Reeves*

### **RYLAN REEVES, RUSSELL**

Reeves totaled 169 kills and 195 digs for the Broncos a year ago. Reeves averaged 2.8 kills per set. She was an honorable mention selection on the All-Mid Continent All-League team. Reeves is one of 10 seniors for Russell.

### **TALLON RENTSCHLER, SMITH CENTER**

Rentschler is a four-year starter for the Lady Red. She was a first-team KVA All-State pick in 2A last year and a first-team All-Mid Continent League pick. Rentschler, a 6-foot middle hitter, led the Lady Red with 496 kills last year, averaging 5.3 per set. She also had a team-high 100 blocks. Rentschler is committed to Fort Hays State.

*Tallon Rentschler*



*Nicole Ruda*

### **NICOLE RUDA, HOLCOMB**

Ruda is looking to surpass the 1,000-kill mark for her career, entering her senior season with 758 kills. Ruda would be the first player to reach that milestone under Holcomb coach Jennifer Barrett, who has coached the Longhorns since 2005. Ruda totaled 337 kills, averaging 3.9 per set last year. She was a first-team all-league selection in the Great West Activities Association last year.

### **HEATHER SCHEMPER, PHILLIPSBURG**

Schemper is coming off a huge sophomore season, notching 351 kills, 126 blocks, a .310 hitting percentage and 43 aces. She was a first-team Class 3A KVA All-State pick and was a first-team All-Mid Continent League selection. She helped lead the Panthers go 35-4 last year.



*Heather Schemper*

### **LIVIA SCHULTZ, WHEATLAND-GRINNELL**

Schultz helped lead the Thunderhawks to a fourth-place finish in Class 1A Division II last year. The outside hitter had 356 kills, 70 aces and 357 digs last year as a junior. She was first-team All-State pick by the KVA and named to the 1A DII state tournament team. She was first team all-league by the Western Kansas Liberty League.



*Livia Schultz*



*Darby Smith*

### **DARBY SMITH, ST. JOHN**

Smith led St. John with 452 kills last year, averaging 4.9 per set. The 5-10 middle hitter had 167 total blocks last season for the Tigers, who took third place in Class 1A Division I. Smith had a .256 hitting percentage last year. She was a first-team KVA All-State selection last year and was a unanimous first-team selection on the All-Central Prairie League team.

### **RILEY THOMPSON, CENTRAL PLAINS**

Thompson dished out 681 assists last year as the Oilers captured their second straight state championship. She was named to the Class 1A Division all-state tournament team. Thompson added 241 digs and had 40 aces on the season.



*Riley Thompson*



*Kassi Weber*

### **KASSIE WEBER, VICTORIA**

Weber averaged 3.2 kills per set for the Knights last year as a junior, helping Victoria go 26-6 and reach the state quarterfinal. Weber landed first-team KVA honors a year ago and was also named to the Class 1A Division I state tournament team. She was a first-team pick on the All-Central Prairie League team.

### **TALEXA WEETER, GOODLAND**

Weeter led Goodland with 342 kills last year as a sophomore. She added 60 aces, 298 digs and 41 blocks for the fourth-place Cowgirls. Weeter landed on the Class 3A state tournament team. The 6-foot outside hitter was a first-team pick in the Great West Activities Conference.



*Talexa Weeter*



*Kaitlyn Windholz*

### **KAITLYN WINDHOLZ, VICTORIA**

Windholz distributed 4.3 assists per set last year for the Knights. She was a second-team All-Central Prairie League selection. Windholz will be a leader in the Knights' back row as she enters her senior season.

### **KASSIDI YOST, TMP-MARIAN**

The Monarchs' setter turned in an outstanding junior season last year, earning first-team KVA All-State honors in 3A. She was also a first-team All-Mid Continent League pick. Yost finished with 629 assists, averaging 7.1 per set. She was also second on the team in kills with 161.



*Kassidi Yost*