

# September 11, 2008 Century Club National Top 100 High School Rankings

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Here are the first in-season national rankings of the 2008 season. We will publish our Century Club national rankings weekly through mid-December.

Since we published the pre-season rankings Aug. 22, most states have gotten their seasons underway. Many Texas teams are approaching 30 matches on the season, while in Alabama teams have played 20 or more times. All of that action means teams are starting to figure out whether they are living up to the hype that attended the start of their seasons.

With 20 days between rankings, there were bound to be big changes in the Century Club. And, sure enough, 19 new teams have fought their way into the top 100. That's preferable to saying that 19 teams have played their way out of the national picture for now, because the ousted teams are still very good, but either have had injury problems affect their performance (every match counts) or have suffered a surprise defeat or two early in the season. Looking over that last, don't be surprised if as many as 15 of those teams eventually find their way back into the rankings.

As for our No. 1 team, they were tested right out of the box last night by nationally-ranked Cathedral Catholic and responded with an exceptional effort. Read on to find the teams we think comprise the top 100 in the land, as well as teams "on the verge" of the national rankings. This is different, and much smaller, than "teams on the bubble." We need one more week to figure out all the teams deserving to land in that category.

Without further ado...

## 2008 Century Club National Top 100 Rankings

### 1. La Costa Canyon (Carlsbad, California)

Current record: 1-0; Pre-season ranking: 1

What a way to start the season, at home versus perhaps the toughest local competition the Mavericks will see all season in Cathedral Catholic. How did LCC do? How about 25-17, 25-10, 25-22 over an awfully good team? The Mavericks got 24 assists from Kendall Polan and 17 kills combined from Natalie Loos and Natalie Hagglund in the win.

## 2. Archbishop Mitty (San Jose, California)

Current record: 5-0; Pre-season ranking: 2

With Joan Caloiaro and Lindsay Dowd splitting the setting chores, Mitty defeated Menlo on Saturday to sweep the Milpitas Spikefest that opens the season in Northern California. Yesterday, the school dedicated "Kerri's Court," a sand volleyball court on campus named in honor of two-time beach volleyball Gold Medalist Kerri Walsh, an alumna of the school. Today, the Monarchs face off against Senior Ace Kat Douglas and her Woodside Wildcats.

## 3. Lee's Summit West (Lee's Summit, Missouri)

Current record: 2-0; Pre-season ranking: 3

Recently installed as the No. 1 Class 4 team in the state of Missouri by the new Missouri Volleyball Coaches Association website, <http://www.moprepvb.org/>, the Titans have lived up to the billing thus far, recording two easy wins in as many chances despite playing without Senior Ace Kate Harris, who is ill and will miss a few more games. In Tuesday's easy win over Belton, Kaitlyn Drawe and Kylie Rice combined for 22 assists and four blocks. LSW hosts the MO/KAN tournament on Saturday, which features seven of the top 10 ranked teams in the Kansas City Metro Area.

## 4. Benet Academy (Lisle, Illinois)

Current record: 7-0; Pre-season ranking: 4

Benet's season of high expectations almost hit a speed bump out of the parking lot. Facing seven-point deficits in each game of Saturday's Willowbrook Invite final versus Hinsdale Central, the Redwings rallied to win, 25-23, 27-25, the second tough test versus Hinsdale Central in as many days. Benet defeated the Red Devils in three games during pool play on Friday. Ariana Mankus led Benet in the championship match with 12 kills, while Paige Vargas's serving was instrumental in the Game 1 comeback. Next up for the Red Wings is Marian Catholic tonight.

## 5. Plant (Tampa, Florida)

Current record: 1-0; Pre-season ranking: 5

The Panthers opened the season nine days ago with a win over Sickles and gets back on the court again today versus Leto. With junior Maddie Martin, a Penn State recruit, still sidelined rehabbing a leg injury for three more weeks, several Plant players have stepped up, none more so than Ariel Ley, who coach Leanna Taylor says has taken her game to the next level this year, capitalizing on her natural setting abilities.

## 6. Lakewood (California)

Current record: 0-0; Pre-season ranking: 1

Some Texas schools have played almost 30 matches. Lakewood, the reigning California Division I champs, won't open its season until Friday at the 32-team Molten Gahr Invitational. Redondo Union, Los Alamitos, Long Beach Poly, Rosary, Brentwood and Flintridge Sacred Heart are some other top teams expected to contend for the title.

#### 7. Downers Grove South (Downers Grove, Illinois)

Current record: 4-0; Pre-season ranking: 7

Downers Grove South took down rival Downers Grove North last night, 25-11, 25-13, but the Mustangs' most impressive win to date came over perennial state power Mother McAuley, where Mo Oestermeyer had seven kills and 15 assists and 6-3 senior Jessica McNellis added eight kills. Possessed with a sweet personality, DGS coach Colleen Reagan said she wanted McNellis to play nasty at the net. So McNellis, who is bound for Bradley, is now nicknamed "McNasty." Bet you won't find that on the Dollar Menu at McDonald's.

#### 8. Mira Costa (Manhattan Beach, California)

Current record: 0-0; Pre-season ranking: 9

The Mustangs won the pre-season Ann Kang Invitational in Hawaii almost one month ago. Since then, there have been only practices. Costa laces them on for real tonight at nationally-ranked Marymount. The two-time defending national champs have won 41 matches in a row.

#### 9. St. James (Lenexa, Kansas)

Current record: 5-0; Pre-season ranking: 10

With Kelly Kolich leading the way with 40 kills on only 61 attempts, the Thunder have roared out of the gates, winning their first five matches in the minimum 10 sets. St. James travels to Wichita this weekend to take on some traditional state 4A and 5A powers.

#### 10. Central (Muncie, Indiana)

Current record: 8-0; Pre-season ranking: 98

Three weeks into the season, Central already owns two signature victories, over Louisville Assumption and Indianapolis Cathedral, teams that started in the national top 15. Hence, the dramatic pole vault up the rankings for the Bearcats, who have been getting great back row defense to go along with strong offense from setter Tessa McGill, middle Kristina Kerrigan and OH Katelyn Bergdoll, who average nearly 10 kills per set between them. The Cats face tough tests on

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## Saturday versus Belmont and Penn.

### 11. Wilson (Long Beach, California)

Current record: 0-0; Pre-season ranking: 11

Traditionally one of the last teams to open their season, this year is no different for the Bruins, who won't get started in earnest until one week from tomorrow at the Durango Fall Classic. Opening your schedule at the toughest tournament in the country is hardly ideal, but with seven experienced and talented seniors on the roster, perhaps it won't make a difference.

### 12. Ursuline (Cincinnati, Ohio)

Current record: 6-0; Pre-season ranking: 12

The state poll has Ursuline third behind Mount Notre Dame and Olmstead Falls. We still like the Lions first and have support in that position from Donna Mechley, whose MND team sits atop the state ranking. "Ursuline is by far the best in the state," she said. "That is the one clear team on top. After that it gets really foggy."

### 13. Assumption (Louisville, Kentucky)

Current record: 10-1; Pre-season ranking: 8

The Rockets asserted themselves in the state Tuesday night, earning a four-set win over a Mercy Academy team that was ranked No. 1 in the coaches association's pre-season poll. Seniors Emily Hayden and Whitney Craven and sophomore Claire Gerwig combined for 38 kills in the win, which was tempered by a knee injury suffered by outstanding senior libero Sarah Rogers midway through the first set. The weekend before, Assumption coach Ron Kordes earned his 700th career win at a tournament in Muncie, Indiana.

### 14. Lake Highland (Orlando, Florida)

Current record: 4-0; Pre-season ranking: 13

The Highlanders went south and dispatched two traditional state powers, St. Thomas Aquinas and Pine Crest, to open the season. The win over Aquinas, however, required a monumental comeback, as Lake Highland dropped the first two sets before rallying for the win, 16-14 in the fifth. Megan Gaughn and Alex Franceschi combined for 31 kills in the come from behind win. The OVA/Lake Highland/Winter Park Tournament is this weekend. Top Orlando area teams Winter Park, The First Academy, Timber Creek, Orangewood Christian and Lake Howell will be in the field along with two-time Alabama 6A champion Huntsville.

#### 15. Naperville Central (Naperville, Illinois)

Current record: 2-0; Pre-season ranking: 14

Emily McGee had nine kills and seven digs as the Redhawks shook off Wheaton Warrenville South on Tuesday. Central plays West Aurora tonight then will test itself Saturday at the Prairie Ridge Tournament.

#### 16. Papillion-La Vista (Papillion, Nebraska)

Current record: 7-0; Pre-season ranking: 18

Gina Mancuso had 17 kills and Chelsey Feekin had 20 assists as Papillion defeated Omaha Marian Saturday to capture the season-opening Bellevue Invitational. Sophomore middle Chelsea Albers was perfect on attack for the Monarchs through the first three matches of the Invite and finished with 32 kills overall.

#### 17. Chaska (Minnesota)

Current record: 5-0; Pre-season ranking: 19

The Hawks, the No. 1 ranked team in Minnesota, have met expectations so far, winning five matches without a loss to open the season while dropping only one set, against Tori Dixon and Burnsville. In a sweep of perennial nationally-ranked Lakeville North last Thursday, libero Kenzie Niesche accumulated 43 digs in three games! Lynn Bielski and Amanda Unze have played well so far at the net for Sue Murphy's team.

#### 18. Eden (New York)

Current record: 7-0; Pre-season ranking: 20

The Lady Raiders won their first tourney of the year--the St. Mary's Classic--by defeating the host school before a huge raucous home crowd last weekend. OH Heather Henry was back to her old form and then some, putting down 17 kills, a number of them back row pipe bombs. Senior OH Janine Benkelman contributed 8 kills while junior MB Katie Eschner totaled 6 kills and 3 stuff blocks.

#### 19. Mercy Academy (Louisville, Kentucky)

Current record: 9-1; Pre-season ranking: 17

The Jaguars may yet dethrone mighty Assumption in the state of Kentucky, but it did not happen Tuesday night. After dominating its first nine opponents, Mercy fell to the Rockets in four close sets on the road. Caitlin Welch had 20 digs for the Jags, while Kelsey Anderson, Paige Wessel and Madison Hardy contributed nine kills apiece. Mercy gets a chance at revenge as early as this weekend at the 24-team L.I.V.T., which also includes Louisville Sacred Heart, Toledo Notre Dame and St. Louis St. Joseph's.

20. Dos Pueblos (Goleta, California)

Current record: 0-0; Pre-season ranking: 21

The Chargers get their season underway today versus Valencia. By this time next week, we'll know how legitimate Dwayne Hauschild's team is, because Dos Pueblos faces nationally ranked Harvard-Westlake on Saturday followed by nationally ranked Thousand Oaks on Tuesday.

21. Reagan (San Antonio, Texas)

Current record: 28-2; Pre-season ranking: 23

The Rattlers sit third in the current LoneStarVolleyball.com state rankings because of a recent defeat at the hands of rival Churchill. But Reagan also owns a win over Churchill, has two tourney titles under its belt, including the prestigious Pearland Classic championship, and is the best team LoneStar editor Scott White says he's seen all year. That's enough for Reagan to make its way into our top 25 and to be the top-rated Texas team in the national rankings.

22. Cathedral (Indianapolis, Indiana)

Current record: 11-2; Pre-season ranking: 15

The Irish dropped a five-set affair to Assumption on August 23 and dropped a tourney match to Muncie Central to close out the month of August, but have since reeled off eight straight wins, including over defending 2A champion Muncie Burris on August 27 and defending 4A champion New Castle, Providence and Columbus East at the Providence Tourney last Saturday. Cathedral won't get tested again until its own Lady Irish Invitational at the end of the month.

23. Merion Mercy (Merion Station, Pennsylvania)

Current record: 10-0; Pre-season ranking: 27

The Bears have started 2008 the same way 2007 went, with lots of wins, most of them easy. Only a first-set tournament finals loss to Emmaus, the fourth-ranked team in the state's largest classification, has dented Merion Mercy's relentless pursuit of victory, a streak that now totals 60 straight matches.

24. Redlands East Valley (Redlands, California)

Current record: 0-0; Pre-season ranking: 28

According to our records, the Wildcats don't play an official match until September 23, which is only 18 days before Mississippi crowns its state champions!

25. Marymount (Los Angeles, California)

Current record: 0-0; Pre-season ranking: 29

The Sailors had a spirited scrimmage Tuesday with Redondo Union and steps on the court today versus Mira Costa with the talent to upend the two-time defending national champs and four-time defending state champs.

The Next 75 with random blurbs included (Note: In order to expedite the ranking, records have been included only if they were readily available)

26. Churchill (San Antonio, Texas)

Current record: 25-3; Pre-season ranking: 26

27. Torrey Pines (San Diego, California)

Current record: 0-0; Pre-season ranking: 30

28. Elkhart Memorial (Elkhart, Indiana)

Current record: 11-0; Pre-season ranking: 32

Random note: Brittany Anglemyer had 12 kills and eight blocks and Lindsay Marks added 38 assists and three aces in an easy win over local rival Mishawaka on Tuesday.

29. Althoff Catholic (Belleville, Illinois)

Current record: 3-0; Pre-season ranking: 46

30. Avon (Indiana)

Current record: 12-0; Pre-season ranking: 35

31. Bishop Miege (Shawnee Mission, Kansas)

Current record: 4-0; Pre-season ranking: 50

32. O'Connor (San Antonio, Texas)

Current record: 22-3; Pre-season ranking: 67

33. Cherry Creek (Englewood, Colorado)

Current record: 4-0; Pre-season ranking: 39

Random note: Among the Bruins's four wins to start the season was a sweep of Mountain Vista, one of Colorado's highly regarded teams. In that one, Elise Sage, a 6-0 senior making the transition to the outside from the middle, had 10 kills, eight in the third game, and excelled defensively and behind the service line. Sage has been the biggest in several surprises for coach Sally Moos on the young season. She had a career-high 19 kills versus Fairview.

34. Lake Highlands (Dallas, Texas)

Current record: 25-3; Pre-season ranking: 38

35. Newport Harbor (Newport Beach, California)

Current record: 0-0; Pre-season ranking: 36

36. Mount Notre Dame (Cincinnati, Ohio)

Current record: 9-0; Pre-season ranking: 51

37. Kettle Moraine Lutheran (Jackson, Wisconsin)

Current record: 9-0; Pre-season ranking: 72

Random note: The defending Wisconsin Division 2 champion Chargers make the big leap up the rankings after besting a stellar field at the season-opening Joust the last weekend in August. Rachel Spaeth's 13 kills, Tori Kroll's 25 assists and five kills and Andrea Henning's 18 digs led KML over Waupun in the finals, the same team the Chargers defeated to win state last year.

38. Pleasant Grove (Utah)

Current record: 11-0; Pre-season ranking: 73

39. North Branch (Michigan)

Current record: 21-1; Pre-season ranking: 43

Random note: North Branch won the Tournament of Champions at Grosse Pointe South over the weekend, but it was hardly a cakewalk. The Broncos were tied 11-11 with Marian in the decisive third game of the final before reeling off the final four points for the title.

40. Ankeny (Iowa)

Current record: 6-0; Pre-season ranking: 48

41. Washburn Rural (Topeka, Kansas)

Current record: 2-1; Pre-season ranking: 16

42. Blue Valley West (Overland Park, Kansas)

Current record: 1-0; Pre-season ranking: 52

43. Cathedral Catholic (San Diego, California)

Current record: 0-1; Pre-season ranking: 31

44. Mother McAuley (Chicago, Illinois)

Current record: 3-1; Pre-season ranking: 37

45. St. Charles East (St. Charles, Illinois)

Current record: 8-0; Pre-season ranking: Bubble

46. Pelham (Alabama)

Current record: 20-2; Pre-season ranking: 49

47. Kentwood (Covington, Washington)

Current record: 1-0; Pre-season ranking: 57

Random note: Issaquah was supposed to be tough, but Kentwood dismantled the Indians in Tuesday's season opener behind 23 combined kills from Jessie Genger and Lauren Campbell.

48. Kamehameha (Honolulu, Hawaii)

Current record: 14-0; Pre-season ranking: 76

49. Lassiter (Marietta, Georgia)

Current record: 19-0; Pre-season ranking: Not ranked

Random note: Dottie Saye's team is no longer flying under the radar after a sizzling start that includes 18 sweeps, including over state powers Pope and Marist. The team is led by 6-5 senior Taylor "Big Country" Montgomery, who will play at Howard next year. She's attacking at almost a .500 clip. Junior Katy McCollister also packs a punch despite being just 5-5. The Trojans are off until September 18, when they face the state's only other unbeaten team, Westminster, and McIntosh in one night.

#### 50. Bentonville (Arkansas)

Current record: 13-0; Pre-season ranking: Bubble

Random note: The defending Arkansas 7A champs have started 2008 blazing and enter the rankings way up here thanks to a win over Oklahoma's Bishop Kelley, which owns a split with highly touted Heritage Hall, rated No. 22 in the pre-season. Bentonville also had an easy win over several-time state 5A champion Siloam Springs, thought to be the best team in the state regardless of class at the start of the year. There is no time to rest for the athletic Tigers, however, who travel tonight to 7-2 Rogers, which features a pair of 6-2 middles, Rachel Woodson and Chelsea Anderson.

#### 51. Burlington Catholic Central (Burlington, Wisconsin)

Current record: 12-0; Pre-season ranking: 53

#### 52. Mount Tabor (Winston-Salem, North Carolina)

Current record: 6-0; Pre-season ranking: 55

#### 53. Heritage Hall (Oklahoma City, Oklahoma)

Current record: 16-1; Pre-season ranking: 22

Random note: Tyler Henderson had a great weekend as Heritage Hall got revenge on Bishop Kelley for a loss earlier in the year with a win over the Comets on their home court in the Bishop Kelley Tournament.

#### 54. El Dorado (Placentia, California)

Current record: 0-0; Pre-season ranking: 59

55. Thousand Oaks (California)

Current record: 0-0; Pre-season ranking: 60

56. Pius XI (Milwaukee, Wisconsin)

Current record: 14-2; Pre-season ranking: 42

57. Pius X (Lincoln, Nebraska)

Current record: 6-0; Pre-season ranking: Bubble

58. Northwest (Grand Island, Nebraska)

Current record: 6-1; Pre-season ranking: 44

59. Berkeley Prep (Tampa, Florida)

Current record: 4-0; Pre-season ranking: 63

Random note: In a match against Clearwater Central Catholic, Christina Theofilos lost her shoe in the middle of a play. She was carrying it around when a teammate passed the ball to her, so she threw the shoe down down, set the ball, picked it back up and was putting it on when the ball came RIGHT to her. She set the ball again and was able to complete the task of putting her shoe on while freshman OH Jordan Burgess recorded a kill.

60. Harvard-Westlake (North Hollywood, California)

Current record: 0-0; Pre-season ranking: 64

61. Sacred Heart (Louisville, Kentucky)

Current record: 5-2; Pre-season ranking: 68

## 62. Mount Vernon (Iowa)

Current record: 6-0; Pre-season ranking: 70

## 63. Shakopee (Minnesota)

Current record: 9-1; Pre-season ranking: 92

Random note: Through 10 matches, junior OH Ashley Wittman leads the state in kills with 164. She also leads the team in digs, though libero Mollie Geske is close behind. The AAA state-champion Sabers have several nice wins under their belts, including St. Cloud Cathedral, Bethlehem Academy and Eastview and would be much higher in the rankings but for a loss to Lakeville North, the team they defeated in the state semifinals a year ago.

## 64. Santa Fe Christian (Solana Beach, California)

Current record: 1-0; Pre-season ranking: 61

Random note: The defending Div. IV state champion Eagles faced a stout challenge in their opener on Wednesday night. La Jolla Country Day cruised in the first set before SFC picked up the intensity. The Eagles won the next three games, but none was easy: 27-25, 27-25, 27-25. USD recruit Kristin Miller led the way offensively with 15 kills while sophomore sensation Mackenzie Gilbert had 30 digs from the back row.

## 65. Olmstead Falls (Ohio)

Current record: 10-0; Pre-season ranking: Bubble

## 66. Clear Creek (League City, Texas)

Current record: 22-4; Pre-season ranking: 83

## 67. Waupun (Wisconsin)

Current record: 12-1; Pre-season ranking: Bubble

## 68. Amarillo (Texas)

Current record: 26-3; Pre-season ranking: 62

Random note: Several nice wins against top Texas teams mean that the Sandies are, once again, a force to be reckoned with in Class 5A despite heavy graduation losses from last year's state-title team. Seniors Torri Campbell and Aryn Bohannon have been terrific, as expected, but Amarillo's success has come from the production of newcomers Micah Nolan, Sheridan Burgess, Danielle Barker and Josalynn Wise.

## 69. St. Michael-Albertville (Albertville, Minnesota)

Current record: 8-1; Pre-season ranking: 71

Random note: The Knights won the 32-team Southwest Minnesota Challenge last weekend and beat defending Class AA champion Marshall as well as nationally-ranked Eastview in the process. Setter Catherine Yager set a milestone last week with her 2000th career assist.

## 70. Muskego (Wisconsin)

Current record: 10-1; Pre-season ranking: 74

## 71. Cor Jesu (St. Louis, Missouri)

Current record: 2-1; Pre-season ranking: 75

## 72. Kellam (Virginia Beach, Virginia)

Current record: 7-0; Pre-season ranking: Bubble

Random note: After leading a Virginia Beach 1-2-3 charge at the season-opening Ukrops Showcase in Richmond, the Knights continue to get the job done back home. On Tuesday, Cheyanne James had 12 kills and Brogan Blair and Courtney Lynn combined for 20 digs in an easy sweep of First Colonial, the area's second-ranked team.

## 73. Portage Central (Portage, Michigan)

Current record: 14-2; Pre-season ranking: Not ranked

## 74. Homestead (Cupertino, California)

Current record: 10-0; Pre-season ranking: Bubble

Random note: Homestead gets into the national rankings by virtue of a virtuoso performance at the High Sierra Invitational in Reno. The Mustangs won nine times over two days, including wins over Nevada powers Carson and Yerington, Oregon power Ashland and California's Ripon in a thrilling final. Katherine Fischer and Tori Carroll led the way at the net, while Melissa Cheng and Nicole Radish shared the setting duties and did a great job of running the offense.

## 75. Eastview (Apple Valley, Minnesota)

Current record: 8-2; Pre-season ranking: 40

## 76. Delta (Muncie, Indiana)

Current record: 12-2; Pre-season ranking: Bubble

Random note: Seldom do you see a student body rush the court after a volleyball win, but that's exactly what Delta fans did last night after the Eagles upended Burris in four sets to beat the 11-time defending 2A state champion Owls for only the second time in program history. Darcy Dorton led the way for Delta with 25 kills and 14 digs, but underclassmen Kaitlin Walton and Morgan Hahn shined as well, notching 19 kills between them. The loss kept Burris, which has also succumbed to Cathedral and Assumption, from finding its way back into the national rankings.

## 77. La Cueva (Albuquerque, New Mexico)

Current record: 4-0; Pre-season ranking: 80

Random note: The Bears have opened the season with four sweeps and big production from hitters Kylee Terhune and Carolyn Weed, who are averaging eight kills per game between them.

## 78. Grand Island (Nebraska)

Current record: 2-0; Pre-season ranking: 81

79. Los Alamitos (California)

Current record: 0-0; Pre-season ranking: 84

80. Floyd Central (Floyds Knobs, Indiana)

Current record: 7-1; Pre-season ranking: 85

Random note: The Highlanders rallied from two sets down to No. 61 Sacred Heart on Tuesday to force a fifth game, but could not get by the Valkyries. Katy Schad had 25 kills and Mel Stutsman handed out 54 assists in the loss, Floyd's first of the year. The Highlanders host local rival New Albany (8-1) tonight.

81. West Linn (Oregon)

Current record: 1-0; Pre-season ranking: 86

82. Notre Dame (Covington, Kentucky)

Current record: 7-2; Pre-season ranking: 87

83. Lake Howell (Winter Park, Florida)

Current record: 3-0; Pre-season ranking: 90

84. Jenison (Michigan)

Current record: 16-1; Pre-season ranking: 93

85. Gilbert (Arizona)

Current record: 3-0; Pre-season ranking: 94

86. Grandview (Aurora, Colorado)

Current record: 3-0; Pre-season ranking: 97

87. Cy Woods (Cypress, Texas)

Current record: 21-2; Pre-season ranking: Bubble

88. Greenwood (Arkansas)

Current record: 12-0; Pre-season ranking: Bubble

89. The Woodlands (Texas)

Current record: 19-3; Pre-season ranking: Bubble

Random note: We predicted greatness for this team last year, then watched them flame out after we gave them a pre-season national ranking. We approached the Highlanders much more cautiously this year and, lo and behold, look what they've done! They are 12-2 in tournament play, including a second-place finish at the Cy Fair Tournament and a win at the Kingwood Tournament. 6-4 sophomore Katie Messing continues to stand out — you would, too, at that height — but coach Leslie Madison's been getting contributions from a slew of players, including OHs Brittney Rhude, libero Ali Insell, setter Mary McNamara and MB Sarah Sanchez.

90. East Kentwood (Kentwood, Michigan)

Current record: 18-2; Pre-season ranking: 99

91. Archbishop O'Hara (Kansas City, Missouri)

Current record: 3-0; Pre-season ranking: Bubble

Random note: O'Hara won the Class 3 state title a year ago, but the competition wasn't great. So it was important for the Celtics to get a good early-season win over a tough team in Class 4, where most of the state's talent lies. Mission accomplished after a nice win over Blue Springs, in which underclassmen Tori Hurtt (13 kills) and Lindsey Hanaway (24 assists) led the attack.

92. Johnston (Iowa)

Current record: 8-0; Pre-season ranking: Bubble

93. Girls Preparatory School (Chattanooga, Tennessee)

Current record: 15-2; Pre-season ranking: 56

Random note: Head coach Paul Brock now stands just 10 victories shy of 600 for his career.

94. Plano West (Plano, Texas)

Current record: 19-4; Pre-season ranking: 45

95. Marian (Omaha, Nebraska)

Current record: 6-1; Pre-season ranking: Bubble

96. Bishop Kelly (Tulsa, Oklahoma)

Current record: 16-2; Pre-season ranking: Bubble

97. Canyon Randall (Amarillo, Texas)

Current record: 25-1; Pre-season ranking: Bubble

98. Iolani School (Honolulu, Hawaii)

Current record: 15-4; Pre-season ranking: 34

Random note: Battling injuries, Iolani was stunned by Hawaii Division II champion Hawaii Baptist on the road Tuesday. Sarah Palmer, a Texas recruit, led the way with 14 kills for HBA. Mahina Haina had 13 kills for Iolani, which dropped its first league contest of the year after dropping matches to Mira Costa, Los Alamitos and Redondo Union at the Ann Kang Invitational to start the year.

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99. Musselman (Inwood, West Virginia)

Current record: 9-0; Pre-season ranking: Bubble

100. Northlake Christian (Covington, Louisiana)

Current record: 0-0; Pre-season ranking: 100

Random note: Like most schools in Louisiana, Northlake Christian has yet to get its season underway due to two storms, including Hurricane Gustav, that have passed through the area. They hope to get the season started shortly.

Dropped out (19): Pre-season No. 24 Westlake (Austin, Texas); Pre-season No. 25 Deep Run (Glen Allen, Virginia); Pre-season No. 33 Marian (Bloomfield Hills, Michigan); Pre-season No. 41 Magnificat (Rocky River, Ohio); Pre-season No. 47 Brebeuf Jesuit (Indianapolis, Indiana); Pre-season No. 54 St. Joseph's (St. Louis, Missouri); Pre-season No. 58 Allentown Central Catholic (Allentown, Pennsylvania); Pre-season No. 65 Westwood (Texas); Pre-season No. 66 Gross Catholic (Omaha, Nebraska); Pre-season No. 69 St. Thomas Aquinas (Overland Park, Kansas); Pre-season No. 77 Xavier Prep (Phoenix, Arizona); Pre-season No. 78 Huntsville (Alabama); Pre-season No. 79 Siloam Springs (Arkansas); Pre-season No. 82 Round Rock (Texas); Pre-season No. 88 Blue Springs (Missouri); Pre-season No. 89 Marshall (Minnesota); Pre-season No. 91. Pope (Marietta, Georgia); Pre-season No. 95. St. Francis (Mountain View, California); Pre-season No. 96. Normal Community (Normal, Illinois)

Teams on the Verge (Alphabetically, by state)

Alabama: Huntsville, St. Paul's

Arizona: Desert Vista, Xavier Prep

California: Buchanan, Christian Brothers, Clovis West, Corona del Mar, Flintridge Sacred Heart, Ripon, Sacred Heart Cathedral, Santa Barbara, Santa Margarita, The Bishop's

Colorado: Cheyenne Mountain, Columbine, Eaglecrest

Florida: First Academy, Fort Myers, Martin County, St. Thomas Aquinas, Timber Creek

Georgia: Pope, Westminster

Hawaii: Hawaii Baptist, Punahou

Idaho: Eagle

Illinois: Bloomington, Edwardsville, Joliet Catholic, Lemont, Naperville North, St. Francis

Indiana: Burriss, New Albany

Iowa: Dike-New Hartford, Iowa City West

Kansas: St. Thomas Aquinas

Michigan: Lakewood, Marian

Minnesota: Lakeville North, Le Sueur-Henderson, Marshall

Missouri: Blue Springs, Incarnate Word

Nebraska: Grand Island Central Catholic, Omaha Gross

New York: Canandaigua, John Glenn, Hendrick Hudson, Pine Bush, St. Mary's, Ward Melville, West Irondequoit

North Carolina: Cardinal Gibbons

Ohio: Amherst Steele, Magnificat, Mother of Mercy, Toledo Notre Dame

Oregon: Central Catholic (Portland), Crook County, Jesuit, Sheldon

Pennsylvania: Allentown Central Catholic, Emmaus

Tennessee: Dobyys-Bennett, Ravenwood

Texas: Coppell, Highland Park, Pearland, Round Rock, Westlake, Westwood

Utah: Lone Peak

Virginia: Loudoun County

Washington: Curtis, Lewis & Clark, Mead

Wisconsin: D.C. Everest

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