

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Volleyball Candidates Announced for the 2018 Senior CLASS Award

OVERLAND PARK, Kan. (October 1, 2018) – Thirty NCAA[®] women's volleyball student-athletes who excel both on and off the court were selected today as candidates for the 2018 Senior CLASS Award[®] in collegiate volleyball. To be eligible for the award, a student-athlete must be classified as an NCAA Division I senior and have notable achievements in four areas of excellence: community, classroom, character and competition. The complete list of candidates follows this release.

An acronym for *Celebrating Loyalty and Achievement for Staying in School*[®], the Senior CLASS Award focuses on the total student-athlete and encourages students to use their platform in athletics to make a positive impact as leaders in their communities.

Of the 30 candidates, 18 have grade-point averages of 3.5 or higher and 27 have received academic all-conference honors. Fifteen are returning American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) All-Americans, and 10 are members of teams ranked in the AVCA Top 25 Coaches Poll. Outside of academics and athletics, all candidates have been consistently involved in community service on their campus or in their communities.

The 30 candidates will be narrowed to 10 finalists midway through the regular season, and those 10 names will be placed on the official ballot. Ballots will be distributed through a nationwide voting system to media, coaches and fans, who will select one candidate who best exemplifies excellence in the four Cs of community, classroom, character and competition. The Senior CLASS Award winner will be announced during the 2018 NCAA Division I Women's Volleyball Championship in December.

For more information on all the candidates, visit seniorCLASSaward.com.

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Volleyball Candidates

Kamalani Akeo, Pittsburgh
Tami Alade, Stanford
Rachel Anderson, Western Kentucky
Ali Bastianelli, Illinois
Lauren Bruns, Dayton
Santita Ebangwese, Syracuse
Gabrielle Eyl, Northeastern
Mikaela Foecke, Nebraska
Cara Guthrie, UNC Asheville
Erica Haslag, Bradley
Taryn Kloth, Creighton
Haley Libs, Northern Kentucky
AJ Lux, East Tennessee State
Patricia Mattingly, Navy
Alyssa Munlyn, Missouri

Courtney Pence, Illinois State
Jordan Poulter, Illinois
Colleen Reilly, Wofford
Michela Rucli, Hofstra
Jess Schaben, Iowa State
Samantha Seliger-Swenson, Minnesota
Carly Skjodt, Michigan
Alexa Smith, Colorado
Kirstyn Sperry, Bryant
Haley Templeton, Miami
Abby Thelen, Seton Hall
Jaila Tolbert, Virginia Tech
Erica Treiber, Tennessee
Jaali Winters, Creighton
Karley York, North Texas

CONTACT

Erik Miner
Phone: (913) 563-5412
eminer@seniorCLASSaward.com

ABOUT THE AWARD

An acronym for *Celebrating Loyalty and Achievement for Staying in School*, the Senior CLASS Award honors the attributes of senior student-athletes in four areas: community, classroom, character and competition. The award program is designed exclusively for college seniors who are utilizing their complete athletic eligibility, remaining committed to their university and pursuing the many rewards a senior season can bring. Premier Sports Management manages the award.

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