

## HIGH SCHOOLS / PREPS

Prep girls volleyball: players to watch, season storylines, rankings

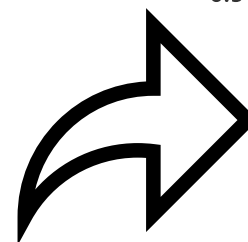
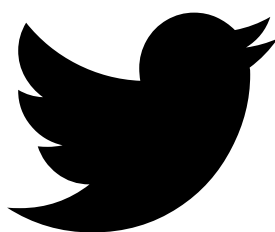
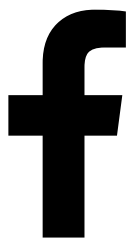


Cathedral Catholic's Lindsey Miller returns for the Dons, who will try to unseat Torrey Pines as San Diego Section Open Division champion. (Bill Wechter)

San Diego Section

By TERRY MONAHAN

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### PLAYERS TO WATCH

Kylie Adams (Cathedral Catholic), Stephanie Adams (El Capitan), Sydney Ahrendt (Sage Creek), Allyson Alden (San Marcos), Ensley Alden (San Marcos), Cristina Alpizar (Del Norte), Sydney Amiatu (El Camino), Cami Appiani (Torrey Pines), Anna Aubele (Santa Fe Christian), Lauren Avila (Rancho Buena Vista), Janie Batterton (Maranatha Christian), Leyla Blackwell (La Jolla), Julia Blyashov (Cathedral Catholic), Dana Branavets (Del Norte), Kaiyah Brown (Bonita Vista), Brooke Buchner (Bishop's), Alysha Buffini (Maranatha Christian), Amy Buffini (Maranatha Christian), Sophia Callahan (Torrey Pines), Kelsey Carter (San Pasqual), Lauren Clifton (Eastlake), Samara Cruz (Escondido), Audrey Dennison (Del Norte), Carly Diehl (Torrey Pines), Alexandra DiNofia (La Jolla), Alyx Dunham (Christian), Trinity Durfee (Torrey Pines), Noelle Elkinton (Del Norte), Maddie Endsley (Cathedral Catholic), Brynne Faltinsky (Bishop's), Maddie Fields (Mission Vista), Samantha Francis (La Jolla Country Day), Vivienne Franke (Canyon Crest), Maya Gessner (La Jolla), Isabelle Guzik (Westview), Genevieve Hara (Mar Vista), Layla Haberfield (La Costa Canyon), Kahlia Jordan (Olympian), Delaney Karl (Sage Creek), Hanna Karl (Sage Creek), Mackenzie Karnig (Carlsbad), Colleen Kennedy (West Hills),

Makana Kowalski (La Jolla Country Day), Megan Kraft (Torrey Pines), Rachel Kuhn (Grossmont), Julia Larsen (Mission Hills), Alex Lougeay (La Costa Canyon), Delaynie Maple (Torrey Pines), Lindsey Miller (Cathedral Catholic), Kate Phillips (Santa Fe Christian), Nikki Prescott (La Jolla Country Day), Anna Pringle (Cathedral Catholic), Maya Satchell (Torrey Pines), Audrey Sawyer (Canyon Crest), Mia Schafer (La Costa Canyon), Sarah Schrag (Bishop's), Rylee Schulz (Santa Fe Christian), Haylee Stoner (Mission Hills), Avry Tatum (La Costa Canyon), Gala Trubint (Scripps Ranch), Audrey Tucker (El Capitan), Sophia Tulino (La Costa Canyon), Larissa Vela (Rancho Buena Vista), Gillian Wedge (Granite Hills), Keelan Williams (Rancho Bernardo), Gracie Wood (Canyon Crest), Brianna Young (Maranatha Christian), Maddie Yu (Bishop's).

## SEASON STORYLINES

**Top-flight competition:** The regular season tipped off with the relocation of the California Challenge from late in the season to the first big tournament of the year. La Costa Canyon took over the event from Torrey Pines and moved the tournament to Aug. 23-24, with the final day of competition returning to Alliant University. Some of the top-flight teams that competed in last week's Challenge were Torrey Pines, Cathedral Catholic, La Costa Canyon, La Jolla, La Jolla Country Day, Sage Creek, Del Norte, Sierra Canyon and Village Christian. This year's winner was Torrey Pines.

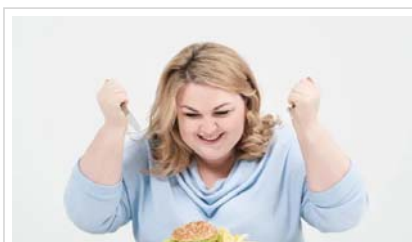
## ADVERTISEMENT

**Tourney time:** The rest of the top tournaments will follow the California Challenge. The September Classic is Sept. 6-7 at Canyon Crest, followed by the La Jolla Coastal Classic (Sept. 20-21), the Scripps Ranch Tournament (Sept. 27-28) and the Southern California Tournament at Alliant (Oct. 11-12).

**Starting over:** Five players from the 2018 All-San Diego Section first team are back this fall. Seniors Brooke Buchner (Bishop's), Maddie Endsley (Cathedral Catholic), Hanna Karl (Sage Creek) and Delaynie Maple (Torrey Pines) lead the way with 6-foot-5 junior Samantha Francis (La Jolla Country Day). Only seniors Stephanie Adams (El Capitan) and Leyla Blackwell (La Jolla) along with sophomore Delaney Karl (Sage Creek) are returning second-teamers.

**Sitting it out:** One player not returning this season is senior outside hitter Samantha Taumoepeau of Mt. Carmel. The first-team All-Palomar League selection in 2018 will continue working out on her own instead of playing for the Sundevils. She has committed to play at Cal in the fall of 2020.

**New look:** Tina Kinkead takes over as head coach at La Jolla Country Day. The former head coach at Vista replaced longtime coach Peter Ogle, who retired after last season. In 41 seasons with the Torreys, Ogle, a 1971 graduate of LJCD, had a career coaching record of 738-387, seven Coastal League crowns, seven section titles and three state championships. The Torreys were 21-15 last season.



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**Back on track:** Coming off back-to-back section Open Division championships, Torrey Pines is geared up for a three-peat. The Falcons also won the first three Open titles (2013-15) and are one of only two teams to capture an Open crown. Santa Fe Christian, the 2016 champion, is the only non-Torrey Pines team to win the Open.

## **RANKINGS**

1. Torrey Pines (Division I)
2. Cathedral Catholic (I)
3. La Jolla Country Day (I)
4. Bishop's (I)
5. La Jolla (I)
6. La Costa Canyon
7. Sage Creek (I)
8. Santa Fe Christian
9. Scripps Ranch (I)
10. Del Norte (I)

**Others:** Canyon Crest (I), Westview (I), El Capitan (I), Maranatha Christian (II), Classical (II), Mission Bay (II), Valhalla (II), Patrick Henry (I), El Camino (II).

*Monahan is a freelance writer.*

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