The John R. Wooden Award®

at the Los Angeles Athletic Club

John R. Wooden Award Announces 2026–27 Women's Preseason Top 50 Watchlist

The spotlight shines on the exceptional talent of women's college basketball as the John R. Wooden Award® announces its 2026–27 Preseason Top 50 Watchlist. Featuring an impressive combination of accomplished stars, dynamic playmakers, and emerging talent, this year's selections reflect the remarkable depth and growing excitement surrounding the women's game. As the season unfolds, these 50 outstanding student athletes will look to distinguish themselves among the nation's best in pursuit of one of college basketball's most prestigious individual honors.

EMBARGOED UNTIL WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2026, AT 10:00 AM PACIFIC / 1:00 PM EASTERN

LOS ANGELES, Calif. (November 18, 2026) – The John R. Wooden Award® at the Los Angeles Athletic Club today unveiled its 2026–27 Women's Preseason Top 50 Watchlist on WoodenAward.com. The list recognizes 50 outstanding student athletes whose performances, potential, and impact have earned them a place in the early conversation for the Wooden Award® Most Outstanding Player as the Award celebrates its 51st year.

Chosen through a preseason poll of national college basketball experts, the watchlist reflects the remarkable depth of talent across women's college basketball. It brings together accomplished upperclassmen and emerging players poised to make their mark on the national stage.

Representing 29 schools, the watchlist captures the breadth of talent across the country. South Carolina leads the field with five selections, while LSU, Maryland, and UConn follow with three apiece. The representation of so many programs underscores the competitive landscape of the women's game.

With exceptional talent at every position, this year's selections showcase the energy, athleticism, and competitive intensity that continue to drive women's college basketball forward. Whether leading their teams through remarkable performances or making an impact in pivotal moments, these outstanding players are poised to deliver another memorable season of competition at the highest level.

Players not selected for the preseason watchlist remain eligible for inclusion on the Wooden Award midseason and late season lists, as well as the National Ballot. The National Ballot will feature 15 outstanding players who have demonstrated to their universities that they meet or exceed the Wooden Award qualifications.

As the season progresses, the Wooden Award will continue to evaluate outstanding play alongside the academic achievement and character that reflect Coach Wooden's enduring values.

About the John R. Wooden Award®

Established in 1976, the John R. Wooden Award® at the Los Angeles Athletic Club is among the most prestigious honors in college basketball, recognizing excellence both on and off the court. Named in honor of legendary UCLA coach John Wooden, the Award celebrates the nation's outstanding men's and women's college basketball players, the Wooden Award All America Teams, and the annual Legends of Coaching recipient.

Rooted in Coach Wooden's principles of leadership, character, and academic excellence, the Award recognizes student athletes who demonstrate exceptional athletic achievement while meeting established academic standards, including progress toward graduation and a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0, as certified by their universities.

Past recipients include basketball legends Larry Bird, Michael Jordan, Tim Duncan, Kevin Durant, Candace Parker, Maya Moore, and Chiney Ogwumike.

Beyond recognizing athletic excellence, the Wooden Award supports educational and philanthropic initiatives, including university scholarship funds, youth basketball camps, and its annual Special Olympics Southern California Basketball Tournament at the Los Angeles Athletic Club.

The John R. Wooden Award Foundation (JRWAF), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, continues Coach Wooden's legacy by supporting initiatives that promote teamwork, academic achievement, character development, and the enduring values of his Pyramid of Success.

For the latest updates, visit WoodenAward.com and follow @WoodenAward on X, Instagram, Facebook, and Threads. For more information about the Los Angeles Athletic Club, visit LAAC.com.

Thank You for Your Continued Support

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John R. Wooden Award®

2026–27 Women's Preseason Top 50 Watchlist

ALPHABETICAL BY LAST NAME

Full Name	School	Class	Position	Height
Nunu Agara	Maryland	Senior	F	6-2
Kamorea Arnold	UConn	Senior	G	5-9
Jasmine Bascoe	Villanova	Junior	G	5-7
Mikayla Blakes	Vanderbilt	Junior	G	5-8
Madison Booker	Texas	Senior	G	6-1
Zoe Brooks	NC State	Senior	G	5-10
Addy Brown	UCLA	Senior	F	6-2
Jaloni Cambridge	Ohio State	Junior	G	5-7
Dani Carnegie	Iowa	Junior	G	5-9
Aaliyah Chavez	Oklahoma	Sophomore	G	5-10
Talaysia Cooper	Ole Miss	Graduate Student	G	6-0
Audi Crooks	Oklahoma State	Senior	C	6-3
Breya Cunningham	Texas	Senior	C	6-4
Jazzy Davidson	USC	Sophomore	G	6-2
Joyce Edwards	South Carolina	Junior	F	6-3
Katie Fiso	Oregon	Junior	G	5-11
Skylar Forbes	West Virginia	Senior	F	6-3
Toby Fournier	Duke	Sophomore	F	6-2
MiLaysia Fulwiley	LSU	Senior	G	5-9
Aubrey Galvan	Vanderbilt	Sophomore	G	5-6
Ava Heiden	Iowa	Junior	C	6-4
Hannah Hidalgo	Notre Dame	Senior	G	5-7
Tessa Johnson	South Carolina	Senior	G	6-0
Kymora Johnson	Virginia	Senior	G	5-7
Zamareya Jones	Louisville	Junior	G	5-7
Chloe Kitts	South Carolina	Graduate Student	F	6-2
Jordan Lee	South Carolina	Junior	G	6-0
Addi Mack	Maryland	Sophomore	G	5-9
Agot Makeer	South Carolina	Sophomore	G	6-1
Liv McGill	Oklahoma State	Junior	G	5-9
Kiyomi McMiller	Florida	Junior	G	5-9
S'Mya Nichols	Kansas	Senior	G	6-0
Oluchi Okananwa	Maryland	Senior	G	5-10
Olivia Olson	Michigan	Junior	G	6-1
Khamil Pierre	NC State	Senior	G	6-2
Britt Prince	Nebraska	Junior	G	5-11
Blanca Quinonez	UConn	Sophomore	F	6-2
Tajianna Roberts	Louisville	Junior	G	5-10
Madison St. Rose	Notre Dame	Senior	G	5-10
Taliah Scott	Baylor	Senior	G	5-9
Sayvia Sellers	Washington	Senior	G	5-7
Clara Strack	Kentucky	Senior	C	6-5
Sarah Strong	UConn	Junior	F	6-2
Syla Swords	Michigan	Junior	G	6-0
Tilda Trygger	Washington	Junior	F	6-6
Berry Wallace	Illinois	Junior	F	6-1
JuJu Watkins	USC	Senior	G	6-2
Mikaylah Williams	LSU	Senior	G	6-0
Jada Williams	LSU	Senior	G	5-6
Sahara Williams	Oklahoma	Senior	F	5-11