

The Top 100 (and ties) High School Basketball Teams Nationally

Each team's all-time ranking in the other published polls is noted

See below for a comparison of our list vs. other lists out there

Rank	Team and Years	Resume'
1.	Baltimore Dunbar 1983 (31-0) Highest rating (among all other ratings) #1 all-time	Baltimore Dunbar is unanimously regarded as the national champion of 1983, and on 2 lists of the greatest high school teams of all-time the Poets come in at #1 and #2. They finished 31-0 with signature wins over DeMatha, 67-55, and Oakton Flint Hill, Virginia, 87-59. They were led by Reggie Williams, Reggie Lewis and Muggsy Bogues. Williams averaged 25 points and 4 assists in 1983, then scored 15 ppg in 4 years at Georgetown, earning all-America honors and the MVP award in the 1984 NCAA final 4. Lewis scored 22 ppg in 4 years at Northeastern, then 18 ppg in 6 NBA seasons. He died of cardiac arrest in 1993 at the age of 27 and at the top of his game. Bogues, just 5-foot-5, scored 7 points with 7 assists in 4 years at Wake Forest, then scored 8 points with 8 assists in 11 NBA seasons, and famously won the 1986 NBA dunk contest.
2.	Chino Hills, California 2016 (35-0) Highest rating (among all other ratings) #4 all-time	The big question with Chino Hills was whether there were enough Balls. Chino Hills defeated 3-time national champions (according to those other guys) Montverde 83-82 and went on to win the California big-school title over Concord DeLaSalle 70-50 to finish unbeaten at 35-0. And, yes, there were enough Balls—LiAngelo was their leading scorer, though it was younger brothers Lonzo and LaMelo who went on to score 12 ppg and 16 ppg in the early years of their NBA careers. Eli Scott went to Loyola Marymount where he scored 14. Chino is rated #4, #18 and #18 on 3 lists of the greatest high school teams.
3.	Indianapolis Crispus Attucks 1956 (31-0) Highest rating (among all other ratings) #24 all-time	Crispus Attucks and “the Big O,” Oscar Robertson, repeated as Indiana state champion with a 79-57 win over Lafayette Jefferson and a 31-0 record. They were the 1 st undefeated Indiana state champion in a tournament dating all the way back to 1911. NSNS picked Crispus Attucks as its national champion for both 1955 and 1956, and MaxPreps agrees. Who could argue? Crispus Attucks ranks only #24 and #24 on 2 lists of the greatest high school teams and is not in the top 30 on a 3 rd . These are mistakes. Crispus Attucks was opened in 1927 when Indianapolis decided to segregate its schools. It was located near Indiana Avenue, the cultural and business hub of the city's Black population and, at that time, the 1 st and only high school designated for the city's Blacks. It was ineligible for the IHSAA until the mid-1940s and remained segregated until 1971, despite state and federal desegregation laws. It became a junior high school in 1986. Not incidentally, Crispus Attucks played the foil in another great story, that of Milan's famous Cinderella team of 1954, memorialized in the movie “Hoosiers.” They were the smallest town ever to win an Indiana title, and they had to defeat the oh-so-more-athletic Crispus Attucks team to do it. And, they did, as Bobby Plump sank a buzzer-beater to win 32-30.
4 (tie).	New York Power Memorial 1963 (27-0) and 1964 (30-0) Highest rating #15 all-time (1964)	7-footer Lew Alcindor (later known as Kareem Abdul-Jabbar) led Power Memorial to 27 straight wins and city Catholic title as a sophomore, then 33 more wins and another city title as a junior. They set a New York Catholic league record with their 49 th straight win, 94-59 over St. Xavier.

		<p>Alcindor scored 28 points before retiring for the night with 3 minutes remaining in the 3rd quarter. Power also defeated DeMatha Catholic 65-52 at the University of Maryland on February 1. They were named America's #1 team both years by acclamation and rightfully so. DeMatha defeated Power 46-43 in 1965, ending Power's winning streak and denying them a 3rd straight mythical national title, though Power won its 3rd straight Catholic title. Alcindor finished his high school career with a 79-2 record.</p> <p>Alcindor went on to win 3 straight NCAA titles and 3 final 4 MVP awards at UCLA, then was a 6-time NBA champion, 6-time NBA MVP and 15-time NBA all-star as well as the NBA all-time high scorer with more than 38,000 points. Power Memorial inexplicably is rated only #15, #15 and #16 on 3 lists of the greatest high school teams ever.</p>
5.	<p>Baltimore Dunbar 1982 (29-0)</p> <p>Highest rating #1 all-time</p>	<p>Some thought that the 1982 Dunbar team was even better than in 1983. Of course, the 2 teams had many of the same players, and in 1982 they were juniors. In 1983, they were seniors. The fact is that Towson Calvert Hall and Dunbar, located just a few miles apart in or near Baltimore, Maryland, both finished the 1982 season unbeaten. For some reason, everybody thought that Calvert Hall was better and deserved to be the national champion. Well, the fact is that they had played one another late in the 1981 season, and Calvert Hall won 94-91 in 3OT on a late basket by Duane Ferrell, who went on to play at Georgia Tech and then 11 seasons in the NBA. And, so, Calvert Hall went into the 1982 season rated #2, and they didn't lose. And, they got a signature win, beating 1978 national champion DeMatha 82-76. Of course, Dunbar got two signature wins against 1986 national champion and pre-season #1 Camden, twice, 67-62 and 84-59. But, the 2 teams—Calvert Hall and Dunbar—didn't play one another in 1982, and Dunbar never caught up. They proved their greatness beyond a doubt in 1983.</p>
6.	<p>East Chicago Washington 1971 (29-0)</p> <p>Highest rating #12 all-time</p>	<p>Something was happening in the extreme northwestern corner of Indiana around this time. Well, yeah, basketball was happening. East Chicago Washington won its 1st state title in 1960, Michigan City Elston won in 1966, Gary Roosevelt in 1968, then East Chicago Roosevelt in 1970 and East Chicago Washington again in 1971. In between, Gary Tolleston lost the final to Indy Washington in 1969. This was a proper hotbed, but out of all of these teams, most observers of Indiana basketball thought that East Chicago Washington, circa 1971, was the best of the best. They finished 29-0, of course, though their championship game win over Elkhart, with a score of 70-60, doesn't sound like anything special. But, they scored 95 points per game for the season and a record 344 points in their final 4 games (86 ppg). And, when it came time to name the Indiana all-state team (not all-tournament, but all-state), well, Pete Trgovich made the 1st team, Tim Stoddard the 2nd, and Ulysses Bridgeman, Darnell Adell and Ruben Bailey all made honorable mention. Trgovich went on to play at UCLA (7 ppg over 3 years); Stoddard at NC State (6 ppg in 3 years); Bridgeman, better known as "Junior," at Louisville (15.5 ppg in 3 years); and Adell at Murray State (6 ppg over 3 years).</p>
7.	<p>New York Benjamin Franklin 1940 (19-0)</p> <p>Not rated among any other the top 75</p>	<p>New York Benjamin Franklin won the PSAL title unbeaten at 19-0 en route to a 37-game winning streak. Pops Gates led Franklin to the 1938 PSAL and national titles but now was playing professionally for the New York Rens. Franklin now had 2 stellar guards in Eddie "The Eel" Younger and Bobby Wanzer. The 5-5, 140-pound Eel, described as "a ball-handling wizard," made the winning shot in OT to beat James Madison 32-30 for the PSAL title, and went on to play with Gates and the Rens. Wanzer went on to lead Seton Hall to a 2-year record of 40-5 and then to play professionally with the Rochester Royals of the NBA.</p>

		<p>Franklin won its 3rd PSAL title in 4 years, unbeaten each time, 18-0 in 1941 to run its winning streak up to 37 games. It would reach 43 games in 1942. In fact, Franklin high won the city title in no less than 5 sports in 1940—track, tennis, soccer, basketball and horseshoes. And the JV basketball team was also unbeaten.</p>
8.	<p>Hyattsville DeMatha, Maryland 1973 (30-1)</p> <p>The 1973 team is rated as high as #5 all-time</p>	<p>DeMatha high school of Hyattsville, Maryland (competes in the D.C. Catholic league) is regarded as one of America’s 2 or 3 best programs of the past 50 years. Their 1973 team, starring Adrian Dantley and Kenny Carr, is now regarded as their best, though at the time Houston Phyllis Wheatley and Los Angeles Verbum Dei shared the #1 ratings. Now DeMatha (1973) is rated as highly as #5 all-time while neither Wheatley nor Mater Dei is rated among the top 75.</p> <p>DeMatha lost to Baltimore Dunbar in 1973 in what they say was the greatest game in Baltimore high school basketball history. It was like DeMatha and Power all over again, but this time the big shoes were on the other feet. Skip Wise scored 22 of his 39 points in the 4th quarter and Dunbar’s Larry Gibson held DeMatha’s Adrian Dantley to 2 baskets. Dunbar won 85-71. We might note that DeMatha was without Kenny Carr, who was injured. Dantley, of course, went on to play at Notre Dame and to score 29 ppg in 2 years, then 24 ppg in 15 NBA seasons. Carr scored 21 ppg in 3 years at North Carolina State, and 12 ppg in 10 NBA seasons. 5 other players played at high D1. None lost again at DeMatha in 1973, as the Stags finished 30-1. Dantley was 57-2 overall with a 36-game winning streak.</p>
9 (tie).	<p>Flint Northwestern, Michigan 1985 (28-0) and Detroit Southwestern 1991 (26-1)</p> <p>Northwestern’s highest rating is #20 all-time; Southwestern’s highest rating (1990) #7 all-time</p>	<p>Here are 2 of Michigan’s greatest teams, coming just 6 years apart toward the end of the 20th century: Flint Northwestern 1985, and Detroit Southwestern 1991.</p> <p>1985 marks the 2nd time that we could not resist naming 10 outstanding teams. The previous year was 1965, the year of Lucius Allen, Butch Beard and George Thompson. Now (in 1985) you’ve got Glen Rice, Sherman Douglas, Jay Edwards, Stevie Thompson, Danny Ferry and more. Again, as in 1965, we’re also going against the grain. The powers-that-be anointed DeMatha as the 1965 national champion. We liked Erasmus Hall. In 1985, the powers-that-be liked Washington Springarn (NSNS) and Baltimore Dunbar (<i>USA Today</i>). We like Flint Northwestern, the champions of Michigan with a 69-55 win over Detroit Southwestern. It was the 4th of 5 straight Michigan titles for Flint—Central in 1982, 1983 and 1984, Northwestern in 1985 and 1986. And, it was the 3rd straight title game loss for Southwestern, and they would lose 7 of 8 through 1989, before they would finally win a pair in 1990 and 1991. But, for now, in Michigan, it was the year of Flint Northwestern and Glen Rice and Jeff Grayer and of Andre Rison, who would play 12 years as an NFL wide receiver. All Rice would do would be to lead the Michigan Wolverines to their only NCAA basketball title in 1989, then score 18 ppg in 15 NBA seasons. Grayer scored 20 ppg at Iowa State and 7 in 9 NBA seasons. Southwestern had the best talent.</p> <p>We might also note that one list of the all-time greatest teams had Flint at #20 and Springarn at #21. Two other lists had Flint at #19 and #20 while Springarn did not make the top 30 on the other 2 lists. Dunbar did not make any of the lists, though it is of course true that the lists of the greatest teams of all-time are pretty much limited to one team per school, and so this simply means that Dunbar 1983 was not regarded as Dunbar’s best team.</p>

		<p>Similarly, in 1991, Detroit Southwestern and Philadelphia Simon Gratz were the obvious #1 and #2 in 1991, but in what order? NSNS and USA Today liked Southwestern for #1, while the new kid on the block, the National Prep Poll, liked Simon Gratz. Detroit Southwestern finished 26-1 with a 77-63 win over Detroit Northern in the Michigan final. Their stars were Jalen Rose and Voshon Leonard. Rose of course became part of Michigan's Fab 5, scoring 17.5 ppg over 3 years, then 14 ppg in 13 NBA seasons. Leonard became Minnesota's all-time #1 scorer with 17 ppg over 4 years. Today, Oak Hill's 1993 team is rated #2 all-time, Southwestern's 1990 team is rated #7, and Simon Gratz' 1993 team is rated #20. And, oh yeah, since, as noted, the lists of the greatest teams of all-time are pretty much limited to one team per school, Southwestern in 1990 and Simon Gratz in 1993 both are surrogates for 1991. In other words, some people think Southwestern was better in 1990, an opinion tht we do not share. (Oak Hill, being an "academy," is not eligible for our lists.)</p>
10.	<p>Southwest Macon, Georgia 1979 (28-0)</p> <p>Highest rating #9 all-time</p>	<p>Southwest Macon was pretty unanimously named national champions. Macon was led by Terry Fair, who went on to score 12 ppg in 4 years at Georgia; Michael Hunt, who scored 10 ppg in 4 years at Furman; and Jeff Malone, who scored 19.5 ppg in 4 years at Mississippi State. After going 26-2 in 1978, they ran the table (28-0) in 1979, and beat crosstown rival Northeast Macon 69-60 to win their 2nd straight Georgia title. Northeast finished 24-5 with 4 losses to Southwest.</p>
11.	<p>Indianapolis Crispus Attucks 1955 (30-1)</p> <p>Highest rating #24 all-time (1956)</p>	<p>Indianapolis Crispus Attucks won the Indiana state title in 1955 and was widely recognized as the 1st all-Black team to win an "open" state championship. The key to Crispus Attucks success was of course "the Big O," Oscar Robertson, generally regarded as one of the greatest basketball players of all-time. Led by Robertson, Crispus Attucks defeated Gary Roosevelt, long a power among segregated Black schools nationally, 97-74 to finish 30-1. Willie Meriweather was a heck of a player, too. He went on to Purdue where he scored 20 ppg as a senior.</p>
12 (tie).	<p>Middletown, Ohio 1956 (25-0) and 1957 (27-0)</p> <p>Highest rating #39 all-time</p>	<p>Jerry Lucas brought Middletown, Ohio, to new prominence. Middletown had won 5 state titles in 10 years from 1944 to 1953. Now, Lucas and Middletown scored 102, 98, 99 and 91 points in their 4 state tournament wins, beating Canton McKinley 91-69 in the final. Lucas scored 53 and 44 points in the Final 4 after scoring 28 ppg during the regular season. The 53 points came in a 99-78 win over previously unbeaten Cleveland East Tech. Middletown was the 1st Ohio team to be rated #1 in the pre-season AP poll (which began in 1950) to go on to win the state title.</p> <p>In 1956, the NSNS split the baby and MaxPreps agreed—that is, Indianapolis Crispus Attucks and Middletown are considered to be co-champions for 1956.</p> <p>In 1957, Middletown won its 7th Ohio title in 12 years though most fans only remember the Jerry Lucas years, meaning 52 straight wins in 1956 and 1957. In 1957, Middletown again was undefeated and Jerry Lucas was better than ever (31 ppg). But, Middletown games were also much closer than in 1956, so unbeaten Cleveland Latin was rated #1 in the state. But, Kent Roosevelt surprised Latin in OT in the state semis while Middletown beat Toledo Macomber 70-65, also in OT. Middletown pulled away from a 35-all half-time tie to defeat Roosevelt 64-54 in the final. Lucas, who had scored 97 points in his final 2 games of 1956, now scored "only" 74. The 1957 team came in at #39 on one list of the greatest high school teams.</p>

		In his senior year of 1958, Lucas and Middletown lost one game 63-62 to Columbus North in a state semi-final game that broke a 76-game winning streak and gave them a 76-1 record over Lucas' final 3 high school seasons. He scored 196 points in 5 final 4 games in 1956, 1957 and 1958, or 39.2 ppg.
13.	Jersey City St. Anthony 1989 (32-0) Rated as highly as #1 all-time	<p>New Jersey launched its Tournament of Champions (TOC) just in time to flaunt Jersey City St. Anthony's best team, or what is pretty unanimously regarded as such. An article on NJ.com says so. Not only that, but 2 of the 3 lists of the greatest teams of all-time rank this team—Jersey City St. Anthony, 1989—as the greatest team of all-time. The other one has them rated #5. (Returning to that ranking of St. Anthony teams, 1996 is #2, 2011 [33-0] is #3 and 2008 [30-0] is #4. All 4 were selected as national champions by somebody.)</p> <p>For the 2nd straight year, there were 3 electors—NPP, NSNS and USA Today—and all 4 (including us) liked St. Anthony, who defeated Elizabeth 62-55 in the 1st TOC and finished 32-0. They were led by coach Bob Hurley, of course; and by his kid, point guard Bobby Hurley, who scored 12 ppg with 8 assists in 4 years at Duke, and 4 ppg in 5 NBA seasons; Terry Dehere, who scored 19 ppg in 4 years at Seton Hall and 8 in 6 NBA seasons; and Rodrick Rhodes, who scored 13 ppg in 4 years at Kentucky and USC, and 5 in 3 NBA seasons.</p>
14.	Duncanville, Texas 2022 (33-1)	<p>We have Duncanville at #5, #1, #1 and #3 from 2020 to 2023, with the 2022 team being the best of the lot. In 2022, Duncanville won its 3rd straight Texas big-school championship—and it would likely have been 4 but for the COVID interruption in 2020. Not only that, but they repeated as our national champion. They lost just one game to Richardson, Texas, 60-58 in OT during the regular season. But, McKinney surprised Richardson in one semi-final while Duncanville beat Humble Atascocita in the other, totally improbable semi-final. Atascocita led 30-10 in the 1st half and 32-19 at the half, but Duncanville held Atascocita to 2 points each in the 3rd and 4th quarters while scoring 31 points themselves in the 2nd half. That's right, they outscored Atascocita 31-4 in the 2nd half to win 50-36. Then they beat McKinney 69-49 to finish 33-1. Duncanville was led by McDonald's all-American and state tournament MVP Anthony Black, and big Ron Holland, rated #4 in the country.</p> <p>MaxPreps returned to its policy of 2012 and 2013, which was to put state association high schools and academies in separate categories, and to name a pure high school champion. They, too, liked Duncanville, and why not.</p>
15.	West Philadelphia 1977 (39-0) Highest rating #38 all-time	<p>West Philadelphia was pretty much of a unanimous choice for national champion in 1977. The Speedboys returned 3 starters from 1976—Gene Banks scored 25 ppg and was generally regarded as the #2 player in the nation behind Albert King...and ahead of Magic Johnson. He went on to score 17 ppg in 4 years at Duke. Darryl Warwick scored 16 ppg, and junior Clarence "Eggy" Tillman 15. He went on to score 12 ppg in 3 years at Rutgers. Joe Garrett joined the starting lineup, and later played at UTEP. West Philly beat Philadelphia Judge 72-52 to win the city title, then beat Overbrook 61-51 in the playoffs to finish 33-0. It was their 3rd straight Philly title, and they won for a 4th time in 1978 after Banks was gone. Philly did not play for the Pennsylvania state title at that time. They came in at #38 on one list of the best high school teams, which seems like faint praise.</p>
16.		

	<p>Indianapolis Lawrence North 2006 (29-0)</p> <p>Highest rating #6 all-time</p>	<p>Indianapolis Lawrence North was the unanimous choice as national champion in 2006 with a 29-0 record and an easy 80-56 win over Muncie Central in the Indiana final. They became the 3rd team to win 3 straight Indiana titles after Franklin 1920-1922 and Muncie 1985-1987. Their 45 straight wins tied Indianapolis Crispus Attucks' state record, and they were 83-4 over those 3 years. They were again led by Greg Oden and Mike Conley, Oden being named national player of the year. Both went to Ohio State, where Oden scored 16 ppg and Conley 11, each in one season. Both then turned pro. Conley scored 15 ppg in 15 NBA seasons, Oden just 8 ppg in 3 seasons while being nagged by foot injuries. North Lawrence is regarded by many as the best Indiana team ever though they are forgetting Crispus Attucks. For the record, they came in at #7 or #8 on 3 lists of the greatest high school teams. So, other than Crispus Attucks, there was nobody quite this good.</p>
17.	<p>Compton, California 1952 (32-0)</p> <p>Highest rating #61 all-time, superceded by 1969 team (30-0)</p>	<p>Compton repeated as the southern California champions at 32-0. They won in 1951 with a record of 27-8, and they had gotten a good head start on a winning streak, which reached 53 games before ending in 1953. Woody Sauldsberry would go on to a 10-year career in the NBA, and an appearance in the 1959 NBA all-star game. But, the team's star was George Selleck, despite a broken leg and the loss of a knee cap in 1951. He went on to become the 3rd player to score 1,000 points at Stanford and to become a 3-time all-American. Art Johlfis and the National Sports News Service (NSNS) likes Compton as the 1952 national champion and MaxPreps endorses that choice.</p>
18.	<p>Chicago Martin Luther King 1993 (32-0)</p> <p>Not ranked among the top 75, superceded by Chicago King 1990 rated #35 all-time</p>	<p>Chicago Martin Luther King didn't get much of a look as a national championship contender in 1993, but there isn't much more that they could have done. They had "the twin towers," 6-11 Rashard Griffith, who scored 16 ppg at Wisconsin, and 6-10 Thomas Hamilton, who couldn't cut it academically and never played in college. But, unlike Griffith, he actually played in the NBA, scoring 3 ppg in 2 partial seasons. But, in high school, they dominated. King was 32-0 and beat Rockford 79-42 to win the Illinois title.</p>
19.	<p>Hyattsville DeMatha, Maryland 1978 (28-0)</p> <p>Unranked, superceded by the 1973 team that is rated as high as #5 all-time</p>	<p>A March 1978 newspaper article said that, well, DeMatha didn't have the best "personnel," but that they were the nation's best team by virtue of "teamwork." DeMatha went 12 deep and it was their younger 2nd stringers, like Sidney Lowe and Derek Whittenburg, who one day made a bigger name for themselves. As a team, they scored 86 ppg and shot 50 percent from the field. Verbum Dei had better 8-deep personnel, the article said, but not the teamwork. Oh, yeah, the article extensively quoted Dave Krider of <i>Basketball Weekly</i>, who along with NSNS picks the national champion. DeMatha was the unanimous choice. They finished 28-0 (Verbum lost twice) and beat D.C. Dunbar 63-55 for the city title.</p>
20.	<p>Akron St. Vincent-St. Mary's 2003 (25-1)</p> <p>Highest rating #3 all-time</p>	<p>Akron St. Vincent-St. Mary's was the unanimous choice for national champion in 2003. This was LeBron James' team, it was his senior season, and it was his best team. They were now traveling the nation, playing the top teams, and he and they showed that they belonged. They beat #3 Mater Dei, they beat #4 L.A. Westchester 78-52, they beat #8 Oak Hill 65-45, and finally they beat Kettering Alter 40-36 for their 3rd Ohio title in 4 years. LeBron went straight to the NBA, or maybe straight to heaven, but Dru Joyce and Romeo Travis also had productive college careers. They have been rated as highly as #3 all-time, and #5 of the 21st century, and #1 in Ohio for all-time. Oh, yeah. Some show their record as 26-0, some show it as 25-1. That one loss was a forfeit, but what's a little forfeit when you've got LeBron? Suffice it to say, they were the best in 2003.</p>

<p>21 (tie).</p>	<p>Passaic, New Jersey 1921, 1922 (33-0) and 1923</p> <p>Passaic is not rated among the top 75 of all-time; shame on them</p>	<p>Passaic and coach Ernest Blood went 200-1 from 1915 to 1924, and won 159 straight games, believed to be the national record for any sport. They won the New Jersey title 4 straight times, beating Trenton Central in 1920, 1921 and 1922, Asbury Park in 1923, and Union Hill 32-25 in 1925. They won again in 1929, beating Atlantic City 34-25. MaxPreps prefers Passaic as its national champion in 1920, 1921 and 1922. Like Franklin, Indiana, playing in those same years, Passaic was often referred to as the Wonder 5.</p> <p>The 1921 team must have been the best of the lot, though it's hard to tell, and so we rank all three teams from 1920 to 1922 here in the #21 slot. But, in 1921 Passaic had its 2 best players, Johnny Roosma and Bobby Thompson, both in their senior years. Roosma was their leading scorer in 1919, 1920 and 1921, then led Army to a 73-13 record over 4 years, becoming the 1st collegiate player ever to score 1,000 points. But, back in Passaic, it was teammate Bobby Thompson who was known as "Thousand Points" Thompson.</p> <p>Passaic kept its unbeaten string alive in 1922 and won its 3rd straight state title, beating Trenton Central for the 3rd time. Passaic scored an average of 69 points per game in 33 games, all wins. One observer said that the key to their 159-game winning streak was that they won 95 percent of jump balls. Franklin's Wonder Five also won its 3rd straight title in this same year, beating Terre Haute Garfield 26-15.</p> <p>In 1923, Passaic defeated Asbury Park to win its 4th straight New Jersey championship, and extended its unbeaten streak which would end at 159 games on February 6, 1925, against Hackensack.</p>
<p>22 (tie).</p>	<p>Philadelphia Overbrook 1954 (29-0) and 1955 (18-1)</p> <p>Highest rating #17 all-time (1955)</p>	<p>In 1954, Wilt Chamberlain tied the city record with 32 points in the Philadelphia finals, and Overbrook defeated South Catholic 74-50. They were the 1st public school to win the Philly championship since 1944, and finished 20-0. Chamberlain averaged 38 ppg in the conference.</p> <p>Overbrook and Chamberlain repeated as Philadelphia champions in 1955, hammering West Catholic 83-42 as Chamberlain scored 35 points and 6-5 teammate Vince Miller added 31. They had beaten West Philly 78-60 for the public title as Chamberlain scored 33 and 5-6 teammate Marty Hughes scored 25. Overbrook finished 18-1 with a 59-58 loss to Farrell, Pennsylvania, a 3-time state champion during the 1950s (including 1954 and 1956, but not 1955), in a holiday tournament. (Philadelphia teams did not play in the Pennsylvania state tournament.) Chamberlain scored 47 ppg in the Philly conference. Miller played college ball with Al Attles at North Carolina A&T.</p>
<p>23.</p>	<p>LaMesa Helix, California 1970 (33-0)</p>	<p>Bill Walton roamed the paint and led the Hilltoppers to a 33-0 record and a 70-56 win over Chula Vista in the southern California final. Walton scored 29 ppg with 24 rebounds. After one game, Denny Crum gushed to John Wooden, "I've just seen the greatest high school player ever." Wooden asked, "Better than Alcindor?" Crum said, "Yup." Wooden said, "Shut the door." On the other, only one of Walton's teammates played any college ball and that for just one season, though all of them were known to score 20 points from time to time against high school competition.</p>
<p>24.</p>	<p>Taylorville, Illinois 1944 (45-0)</p> <p>Not rated among the top 75 on any list</p>	<p>Taylorville won the Illinois title in 1944 with a 45-0 record, still the state record, and was the 1st Illinois champion ever to finish the season undefeated. They won easily, beating Elgin 56-33 in the final. Its stars were Ron Bontemps and Johnny Orr. Both played at Beloit College where their</p>

		high school coach, Dolph Stanley, was now the coach. Bontemps was captain of the 1952 gold-medal winning U.S. Olympic team. Orr later coached UMass, Michigan and Iowa State. MaxPreps picked Taylorville as its national champion for 1944, and who could disagree?
25 (tie).	Nashville Pearl, Tennessee 1966 (31-0), and Houston Phyllis Wheatley 1968 (36-0) Not rated among the top 75	<p>We have already said that there were 4 great segregated Black high schools that transitioned to the integrated era and proved that Black teams could beat white ones. The big 3 was Nashville Pearl, Tennessee; Houston Phyllis Wheatley; and Louisville Central, Kentucky. The 4th one was St. Petersburg Gibbs in Florida.</p> <p>Nashville Pearl won the national Black title in 1959, 1960 and 1963, then won Tennessee's 1st 2 integrated tournaments in 1965 and 1966. In 1966, Pearl won 4 games by an average of 68-52 and beat Treadwell 63-54 in the final. Perry Wallace was their star and became the 1st Black to play in the SEC, at Vanderbilt, where his number was retired. Teammate Ted McClain played at Tennessee State, where he was the MVP of the NCAA D2 tournament in 1970. He played 9 years in the ABA. James Douglas played at Memphis.</p> <p>In 1965, Pearl won their 1st integrated state title, but in the fall of 1964 they lost the very highly-publicized 1st integrated basketball game ever in the Volunteer state to Father Ryan high school 52-51.</p> <p>It's not obvious that Wheatley wasn't even better in 1970 and 1973 but we'll go ahead and rank their 1968 team here. From 1940 to 1966, Wheatley won 12 PVIL titles and were runners-up on 4 other occasions. 3 times they went to the Black national championship tournament, finishing 2nd to Louisville Central in 1952. Texas high schools were nominally integrated in 1967 but Black schools could and did choose to stay in the all-Black PVIL until 1970. Not Wheatley. They jumped to the previously all-white UIL as soon as possible in 1968. And, wouldn't you know it, they stormed all the way to the class AAAA final against the 1962 champion and 1965 runners-up from Dallas Jefferson. Wheatley outran Jefferson 85-80 (in OT) to win the very 1st "integrated" state tournament with its all-Black squad. Jefferson outshot Wheatley 45 percent to 41 and had 2 fewer turnovers, but Wheatley led the rebounding 56-38. They finished 36-0. Jerry Bonney went from Wheatley to Houston U., scoring 9 ppg in 3 years.</p>
26.	Wichita Heights, Kansas 1977 (23-0) Ranked as high as #13 all-time	Wichita Heights is generally regarded as the #2 team of 1977. They were led by Antoine Carr and Darnell Valentine. Valentine was 1 st team all-Parade, and went on to score 15 ppg in 4 years at Kansas and 9 ppg in 9 NBA seasons. Carr scored 17 ppg in 4 years at Wichita State and 9 in 16 NBA seasons. They won the state title game 92-52 to finish 23-0.
27 (tie).	Athens, Texas 1929 (38-1); and Washington, Indiana 1930 (30-1) Not ranked among the top 75	<p>Athens won the Texas championship in 1927, 1929, 1931, 1933 and 1934. In 1927, they had finished 6th at the national tournament. In 1929, they defeated Denton 22-11 in the state final, and in both 1929 and 1930, they won the national tournament in Chicago, beating Oklahoma City Classen 25-21 in 1929 and Jena, Louisiana, 22-16 in 1930. Athens center Freddie Tompkins made the Hornets go. "They grow 'em big in Athens," said one newspaper report, and "they perfected an overhead game." Tompkins went on to play college ball at South Carolina, where he is a member of their hall of fame. He played for 2 years; the Gamecocks went 35-3 as Freddie scored 13.4 ppg.</p> <p>Washington (the Hatchets) defeated Muncie 32-21 to win the Indiana title and finish 31-1. They then defeated national champion Athens, Texas, in a</p>

		<p>challenge game 28-26. Washington was led by Big Dave DeJernett, 6-3, and thought to be the 1st African-American to lead any team at any level to a major championship. Muncie was integrated, too, with 6-6 Jack Mann. But, though Mann was 3 inches taller, DeJernette consistently out-jumped him on jump balls, to which Washington's win was generally attributed.</p> <p>Washington coach Burl Friddle, once one of the Franklin Wonder Five, accepted a challenge from Athens to play the Hornets in a match game. Washington had been excluded from the national tournament, because the tournament discriminated against Black players, while Athens defeated Jena, Louisiana, 22-16 in the national final. DeJernette and the Hornets' center Freddie Tompkins each scored 11 points, and the Hatchets won 28-26. Athens won 5 state titles in 8 years, and 2 national titles, but this year they lost to Denton 24-19 in the Texas semi-final. Denton then defeated Estelline 30-11 for the Texas title, but declined to play in Chicago. Athens went in their place and repeated as national champion, beating Jena, Louisiana, 22-16 in the final.</p> <p>The following year, DeJernette received death threats from "the Committee of 14" of the KKK. DeJernette shrugged off the threats, but Washington lost to Muncie in the state semis as DeJernette scored 14 points, one for each of the so-called Committee, it was noted. Knute Rockne spoke at a banquet honoring Washington, and ostentatiously shook DeJernette's hand. 2 days later, he was killed in a plane crash.</p>
28.	<p>Philadelphia Simon Gratz 1993 (31-0)</p> <p>Highest rating #17 all-time</p>	<p>Philadelphia Simon Gratz shared the 1993 national title with Oak Hill Academy, who is of course ineligible here. NSNS and NPP liked Oak Hill while <i>USA Today</i> liked Simon Gratz. Both were undefeated. MaxPreps did not exactly break the tie, but it noted that Oak Hill's 1993 team is generally regarded as one of the greatest ever. On 2 of those infamous lists of the top teams, Oak Hill ranks #2 and #6, Gratz #17 and #20. Oak Hill's Jerry Stackhouse and Jeff McInnis and Gratz' Rasheed Wallace all went on to become teammates at North Carolina, Stackhouse scoring 16 ppg, McInnis 11 and Wallace 13 in their best seasons. Stackhouse scored 26 ppg with 7 rebounds and 4 assists in his final year at Oak Hill, while McInnis scored 17 ppg with 10 assists. If Oak Hill were eligible, we would have them at #1.</p> <p>Oak Hill and Philadelphia Simon Gratz again were #1 and #2 in 1994, but this time Oak Hill was unanimously preferred at #1. Wallace was gone, so Simon Gratz was led by Shawn Smith, who scored 14 ppg in 4 years at Virginia Tech, and Terrell Stokes who scored 5 ppg at Maryland.</p>
29.	<p>Santa Ana Mater Dei 2014 (35-0)</p> <p>Not ranked among the top 75</p>	<p>MaxPreps continued to militate against the wild west academies that were coming to proliferate. In 2014, they abandoned picking 2 champions—a state association champion and an academy champion. This time they simply picked an actual high school, Santa Ana Mater Dei, California, as its national champion while everybody else picked Montverde Academy. Mater Dei finished 35-0 and Montverde officially 28-0. But, part of MaxPreps rationale had to be that Montverde in fact lost a game to Chicago Curie, but then the game was forfeited due to Curie's use of an ineligible player. Mater Dei beat a who's who of California opponents—Oakland Bishop O'Dowd twice, including 71-61 to repeat as the California big-school champion; Bellflower St. John Bosco twice, Chino Hills, Etiwanda and Westchester; plus Chicago Whitney Young, Houston Yates and Philadelphia Neumann-Gorretti. They were led by the California player of the year Stanley Johnson.</p>
30.	<p>Houston Yates 2010 (34-0)</p>	

	Highest rating #26 all-time	Houston Yates was the unanimous choice as national champion in 2010, and why not? They won all 34 of their games, and set national records with a 116 ppg scoring average and 15 consecutive 100-point games. They finished the season with a 58-game winning streak. The team was rated as high as #26 all-time and #12 in the 21 st century. They defeated Lancaster 92-73 for their 2 nd straight class 4A title. They were led by Joseph Young, who went on to score 17.5 ppg at Houston and Oregon, while 3 other players also went on to play D1 ball. Yates was rated #26 all-time on one list of the greatest high school teams.
31 (tie).	Jersey City St. Anthony, New Jersey 2008 (32-0) and 2011 (33-0) Neither is rated among the top 75; they are superceded by St. Anthony's 1989 team rated above at #14 and as highly as #1 elsewhere	In 2008, Jersey City St. Anthony won its 10 th New Jersey tournament of champions title and its 3 rd national championship, both unanimously. They beat Newark Science Park 69-36 in the TOC to finish 32-0, winning those 32 games by an average of about 40 points. They sent 5 guards to high D1 colleges, led by Tyshawn Taylor, who scored 11 ppg at Kansas, while forward Mike Rosario went on to score 13 ppg at Rutgers and Florida. A funny thing happened on the way to the 2011 high school rankings. As late as April 2, 2011, MaxPreps picked Flower Mound Marcus, located in the city of Flower Mound, Texas, as its national champion. Others seemed to agree on St. Anthony. By 2022, MaxPreps had changed its mind and picked St. Anthony as its national champion for 2011, intimating further that it had picked St. Anthony in 2011 and all along. Oh, well. No biggie. Clearly, Jersey City St. Anthony deserved to be the 2011 national champion, despite having been ranked #6 by MaxPreps at the time. They finished 33-0 and beat Plainfield 61-49 to win the New Jersey TOC. They also beat Newark St. Benedict's 51-50 and beat Long Island Lutheran and Brooklyn Abraham Lincoln. Kyle Anderson, Jimmy Hall and Myles Mack all went on to score in double figures in their college careers at UCLA, Kent State and Rutgers, respectively. Elizabeth St. Patrick's, also known as the Patrick School, lost its opener to Mt. Vernon, New York, then won 26 straight games, but then lost to St. Anthony in the Jersey TOC semis 62-45.
32.	Dolton Thornridge, Illinois 1972 (33-0) Highest rating #10 all-time	Dolton Thornridge clobbered Quincy 104-69 to win the Illinois state championship and to finish 33-0. They won 54 straight games. Dolton is a village in the southeastern area of Cook County, near the Indiana line, in that hotbed of basketball that extended to the east to include East Chicago and Gary and Michigan City, Indiana, and also Harvey, Illinois. Thornridge's leader was Quinn Buckner, who went on to win an NCAA championship at Indiana in 1976. He averaged 10 ppg in 4 years at Indiana, and 8 ppg in 10 NBA seasons. Co-captain Boyd Batts played 3 seasons at Hawaii and UNLV, and scored 11 ppg. Dolton Thornridge has pretty unanimously been regarded as the best team and the national champion of 1972.
33.	Mt. Vernon, Illinois 1950 (33-0) Not rated among the top 75	Mt. Vernon won its 2 nd straight Illinois title in 1950, beating Danville 85-61 to finish 33-0 and 63-3 over 2 years and with a 46-game winning streak. 3 of their players went on to play in the NCAA final 4—6-5 Max Hooper at Illinois, and Eddie King and John Riley at Bradley. And, Walt Moore was the 1 st Black athlete to play at Illinois. He soon left, however, but then helped Western Illinois to a 2-year record of 55-6.
34.	Franklin, Indiana 1920 (29-1) Not ranked in the top 75	Franklin won the Indiana championship for the 1 st time in 1920, beating Lafayette 31-13 to finish 29-1. They would go on to repeat as Indiana champions in 1921 (29-4) and 1922 (31-4), and would come to be known as the Wonder 5. They went 104-10 over 4 years. Ernest "Griz" Wagner was their coach and "Fuzzy" Vandivier their star. John Wooden said Fuzzy was the best high school player he ever saw. Franklin did not play in the national tournament, and ironically it was won by Indiana rival Wingate

		<p>(over yet another Indiana team, Crawfordsville, in the final, 22-16). After 1922, Wagner and his 5 starters all moved together to Franklin College, where they were unbeaten in their 1st season (1922-1923) and won 50 straight games, including wins over Illinois, Notre Dame, Purdue and Wisconsin. Franklin high school was established in 1871, and operates to this day.</p> <p>In 1921, Franklin beat Anderson 35-22 to win its 2nd straight Indiana title, and in 1922, the Wonder Five won its 3rd straight title, beating Terre Haute Garfield 26-15.</p>
35 (tie).	<p>Oakland McClymonds 1958 (21-0), 1959 (27-0) and 1960 (22-0)</p> <p>Highest ranking is the 1960 team at #27 all-time</p>	<p>From 1958 to 1962, Oakland McClymonds won 110 games and lost only one. In 1958, 1959 and 1960, the Warriors won 68 straight games, won the northern California title and were named national champions by the National Sports News Service each year. MaxPreps has endorsed all 3 of those championships. 6-10 Jim Hadnot was the star in 1958. He went on to score 17.5 ppg over 3 years at Providence.</p> <p>McClymonds was undefeated for the 2nd straight year in 1959, and was again named national champion. Paul Silas starred in 1959 and 1960, as did Fritz Pointer. He was brother to the Pointer Sisters and he played college ball at USF. Silas played college ball at Creighton, then spent 17 years as an NBA player and 12 as a head coach.</p> <p>In 1960, Brooklyn Boys High repeated as champions of New York's PSAL, now 22-0 to run their winning streak to 40 games. MaxPreps endorses the NSNS selection of Oakland McClymonds for its 3rd straight national title. We prefer Boys on the basis that Connie Hawkins was better than Paul Silas. Maybe a tie would be the right call. Too bad they didn't play each other, but it would have been a very long trip in those days.</p> <p>By 1963 they had won 6 straight NorCal titles.</p>
36.	<p>Iola, Kansas 1915 (26-1)</p> <p>Not rated among the top 75</p>	<p>In 1915, Iola, led by Forrest "Red" DiBernardi, was regarded as the best team in basketball-mad Kansas. DiBernardi went on to win all-America honors at Westminster (Missouri), and later was a 5-time AAU all-American. Kansas had 2 state tournaments at the time, and Iola won the Kansas University Open, beating Newton, 30-17. They lost to Wichita 41-31 at the KHSAA tournament, however. Wichita previously had lost twice to Newton and their won-loss record was not recorded.</p> <p>In 1916, Newton (18-2) upset Iola (25-2) in the now consolidated Kansas tournament. The official score was 51-48 in OT, but that was highly controversial. At the end of regulation, the scoreboard showed Iola ahead 47-46 but Newton protested and, after 40 minutes of discussion, the score was declared a tie at 47-all. Newton won in OT. DeBernardi had been injured early in the game and scored just 4 points in the 2nd half and OT. He moved to Kansas City, Missouri, Northeast high school for his senior season of 1917. Newton was known for its tough defense—its tough <i>zone</i> defense, that is. Coach Frank Lindley was considered by some to be among the inventors of the zone defense. It also should be noted that Newton was a member of the Arkansas Valley Conference (AVC) located in north central Kansas, and that the legacy of Kansas basketball in the beginning was very largely the legacy of the Arkansas Valley. This was the greatest hotbed of high school basketball anywhere in America. Through 1940, AVC teams won 67 of 140 slots in the Kansas tournament(s) semi-finals and 18 of 37 state championships. Along with Newton, AVC teams that won state titles</p>

		included Arkansas City, Halstead, Reno County, Wichita and Winfield. But Iola and DeBernardi were the best of the lot.
37.	Chicago Martin Luther King 1990 (32-0) Highest rating #35 all-time	Oak Hill was rated #1 in the nation at mid-season. They never lost, but finished #2 behind the unanimous #1 Chicago Martin Luther King. In fact, they were behind Detroit Southwestern for awhile. And, now, Southwestern is rated #7 of all-time, MLK #35, and Oak Hill is unrated. So, throw it all away and start over. But, in any event, we have declared that Oak Hill is not a high school, but an "academy" and, so, for different reasons, we agree with the pick of Chicago Martin Luther King as the national champion. MLK was led by Jamie Brandon, who went on to score 13 ppg in 3 years at LSU. MLK was 32-0 and beat Chicago Gordon Tech 65-55 for the Illinois state title. Most rankings prefer this team to MLK's 1993 team. We like 1993, who is rated #19 above.
38.	Trenton Central , New Jersey 1934 Not rated among the top 75	In 1934, the Trenton Central Tornadoes won their 2 nd of 4 straight New Jersey titles, beating Newark South Side, now Newark Malcolm X Shabazz high school, 31-17. They won their 3 rd straight state title in 1935 as Mike Bloom continued to prowl the court for the Tornadoes. MaxPreps chose Trenton as its national champion for the 2 nd time in 3 years, making them the 3 rd team selected more than once after Passaic, New Jersey, and Kansas City Wyandotte, Kansas. They reported Trenton to be undefeated in 1934 and 71-2 over 3 years, but did not report how many wins they had in 1934. We had them #3 nationally in 1933 and not ranked among the top 5 in 1935.
39 (tie).	Louisville Central 1969 (35-1); and Houston Phyllis Wheatley 1970 (39-0) and 1973 (43-1) Not rated among the top 75	Louisville Central was a segregated, Blacks-only school from 1892 through 1957. They won the national Black title in 1955 and 1956. In 1957, the U.S. Information Agency produced a propaganda film showing peaceful integration at Central high. But, by 1969, the year after Martin Luther King was killed, Louisville was feeling the same racial tensions as every other American community. With "the Martin Luther King thing, the riot and all that," remembered center Tommy Starnes 50 years later, "our backs were against the wall." But Central also had a secret weapon in Ron King, who scored a record 44 points in the final as Central clobbered Ohio County 101-72 to become the 1 st all-Black team to win the state title. King went on to score 20 ppg over 3 years and to lead Florida State to the 1972 NCAA final. Central finished 35-1. Houston Phyllis Wheatley was the best of 4 previously Black, segregated high schools that transitioned to the integration era by winning state titles within the 1 st year or 3 in which they were eligible. Ok, that needs a clarification. The schools were still segregated, but now the segregation was a matter of custom, not a requirement of the law. It did not mean that teams were integrated. It just meant that the Black teams now played the white teams, and vice versa. Along with Wheatley, the other 3 teams in question were Louisville Central in Kentucky, Nashville Pearl in Tennessee and St. Petersburg Gibbs in Florida. Wheatley had won 14 Black state titles, as late as 1969, when they won the 1 st integrated state title in 1970, then repeated in 1973 and 1978. Central won one of the 1 st integrated titles in 1969. Pearl, winner of 3 Black national championships back in the day, won the 1 st 2 integrated titles in the Volunteer state. Gibbs won the Black title in 1966, then the integrated title in 1967. Soon enough, there were more all-Black teams winning state titles here and there. These were the pioneers and, again, Wheatley was the best (over time). We like their 1968 team a

		<p>little better than these 1970 and 1973 teams, though admittedly that is a matter of splitting hairs.</p> <p>NSNS and MaxPreps both prefer Houston Phyllis Wheatley as their national champions in 1970. Hey, they were 39-0, and they had Dwight Jones who averaged 28 points and 24 rebounds per game as a senior, and played on that famous 1972 U.S. Olympic team. They won the Texas title in 1968, 1969 and now 1970, going 102-2 over 3 years. They won the 1970 title beating Carrollton Turner 108-80. Along with Jones, guard Lawrence Johnson started on all 3 state champions. It was their 15th state title, including 12 in the old PVIL, the association for Black schools and Black sports teams.</p> <p>In 1973, Houston Phyllis Wheatley (43-1) and Los Angeles Verbum Dei (29-2) shared #1, but that was then. Today? Today, everybody says 1973 was DeMatha's best team and the best team of 1973. Wheatley won the Texas title 84-78 over Midland. They scored a reported 118 points per game. Eddie Owens was a <i>Parade</i> all-American, played at UNLV and scored 3 ppg in the NBA. Steve Jones played at Texas A&M, Michael Long and Robert Jammer at UT-Arlington, Willie Davis at North Texas.</p>
40 (tie).	<p>Compton, California 1968 (32-0) and 1969 (30-0)</p> <p>Highest ranking is the 1969 team at #61 all-time</p>	<p>In 1968 and 1969, Compton was named national champion by the NSNS, and MaxPreps concurred for the 2nd and 3rd times (that is, as in 1952). Compton finished 32-0 in 1968, 30-0 in 1969, and by then they would have a 66-game winning streak. Forward Larry Hollyfield and guard Lewis "Louie" Nelson both starred in 1968 and 1969, and in college—Nelson at Washington, Hollyfield at UCLA. Nelson started 2 years in the NBA. NSNS and MaxPreps like them as national champions for 1968.</p>
41.	<p>Brooklyn Boys 1960 (22-0)</p> <p>Not rated among the top 75 all-time</p>	<p>Brooklyn Boys High repeated as champions of New York's PSAL, now 22-0 to run their winning streak to 40 games. MaxPreps endorses the NSNS selection of Oakland McClymonds for its 3rd straight national title. We prefer Boys on the basis that Connie Hawkins was better than McClymonds' Paul Silas. Maybe a tie would be the right call. Too bad they didn't play each other, but it would have been a very long trip in those days.</p>
42.	<p>Houston Kashmere 1975 (46-0)</p> <p>Highest ranking #31 all-time</p>	<p><i>Basketball Weekly</i> joined NSNS in selecting a national champion in 1975, and promptly bollixed up the whole deal. Dave Krider made the picks for <i>BW</i>, and it turned out that <i>BW</i> refused to pay him for one more week of work, and so a final pick was never made. The regular season pick was Los Angeles Verbum Dei, then 28-0, and still (seemingly forever) led by David Greenwood and Roy Hamilton. And, that's where things remained. Unfortunately (for Verbum and for <i>BW</i>) Verbum Dei promptly lost to Palos Verdes and their star Bill Laimbeer 61-58 in the CIF southern semis. Krider said that he would have picked Houston Kashmere but, again, that pick was never published, so Verbum Dei remains the accidental champion of 1975.</p> <p>Well, except NSNS picked Houston Kashmere, and their 46-0 record looks better than Verbum's 28-1, so surely people recognize that Kashmere was the best team that year. Surely. Of course, Kashmere, riding a 77-game winning streak, just got past Fort Worth Paschal 60-58 in the final. For coach Weldon Drew, it ended a 15-year wait that had begun in 1960 when the PVIL final between Kashmere and Dallas Madison was called off because of an overcrowded arena. Now, at least 4 of Kashmere's starters would play college ball, led by Karl Godine, who played at Texas A&M and was drafted by the NBA.</p>

43.	Quincy, Illinois 1981 (33-0) Highest rating is #63 all-time	Quincy won its 2 nd Illinois state title in 1981, and its 1 st in almost 50 years, clobbering Maywood Proviso East 68-39 in the final to finish at 33-0. The team was led by Bruce Douglas, who was Mr. Basketball Indiana in 1982 when Quincy extended its winning streak to 64 games, losing only in a state semi-final. Quincy went 123-5 in his 4 years on the varsity team. He started at Illinois for 4 years, scoring 10 ppg. He is the all-time leader in assists and steals with averages of 5 and 2.5 per game, respectively. His teammate Michael Payne played 4 years at Iowa, also scoring 10 ppg, while adding 7 rebounds.
44 (tie).	Rockford, Illinois 1911 (19-1) and 1919 (23-1) Not ranked among the top 75	Rockford won the Illinois state championship in 1911 with a record of 19-1 by demolishing Mt. Carroll 60-15 in the state final. Their one loss was at Belvidere, 32-27. 4 starters made the all-tournament team led by high scorers Frank Johnson and "Bealy" Thomas. Rockford, later Rockford Central, was the 1 st high school opened in Rockford in 1885. It was closed in 1940. Rockford was the 2 nd team to win a 2nd Illinois state title, after Bloomington in 1910 and 1916, beating Springfield 39-20 to finish 23-1. Rockford was led by Harry Englund, who later played with the Staley's Bears, the precursors of the Chicago Bears football team.
45 (tie).	Sugar Land Willowriver, Texas 2001 (39-0) and Dallas Lincoln 2002 (40-0) Lincoln was rated as high as #52 all-time; Willowriver's highest ranking is #56 all-time	Here are 2 more Texas powerhouses. Sugar Land Willowriver won the Texas championship in 2001, beating Klein Forest 59-52 to finish 36-1. But, they were even better in 2002, beating Bryan 65-58 to finish 39-0. Both teams were led by guard T.J. Ford, who went on to become an all-American at Texas. The school is located in Fort Bend County and is sometimes called Fort Bend Willowriver. Dallas Lincoln was unanimously regarded as the national champion in 2002. They won the Texas title with a perfect 40-0 record, beating Beaumont Ozen 71-51 in the final. Chris Bosh was their star, and he of course went on to play one year at Georgia Tech and then to score 19 ppg in 13 NBA seasons. Bryan Hopkins was his side-kick, and a good one. He scored 16 ppg at SMU.
46.	Maywood Proviso East, Illinois 1991 (32-1) Rated as high as #16 all-time	Maywood Proviso East was the Illinois champion in 1991 at 32-1 with a 68-61 win over Peoria Manual in the final. Their talent was as good as anybody's. Donnie Boyce at Colorado and Michael Finley at Wisconsin both finished as their school's all-time leading scorer, and Sherrell Ford scored 23 ppg at Illinois-Chicago.
47.	New York DeWitt Clinton 1966 (21-0) Not rated among the top 75	New York DeWitt Clinton was ranked #1 nationally in 1966, having won their 15 th New York public school title behind guards Tiny Archibald, who played at UTEP and of course in the NBA; Walter Robertson, who later played with the Harlem Globetrotters; and forward Mike Switzer, who played beside Archibald at UTEP. They defeated defending city and national champion Erasmus 72-58 for the city title at 21-0. Clinton opened in Manhattan in 1897 as Boys high school. It moved to the Bronx in 1929 but remained boys-only until 1983. It is not to be confused with the modern Boys high school, whose 1960 is rated above at #18.
48.	Detroit Southwestern 1990 (30-1) Highest rating #7 all-time, but that should be the 1991 team	You may recall that we ranked Detroit Southwestern's 1991 team #9 all-time, whereas MaxPreps prefers its 1990 team and ranks them #7. That's a bit of a brain-tease. Their stars were Jalen Rose and Voshon Leonard. Rose of course became part of Michigan's Fab 5, scoring 17.5 ppg over 3 years, then 14 ppg in 13 NBA seasons. Leonard became Minnesota's all-time #1 scorer with 17 ppg over 4 years. Were they better as juniors than as

		seniors? We also prefer Chicago Martin Luther King as national champion in 1990, and Detroit Southwestern in 1991. So we'll stick to the 1990 version ranking down here at #48, behind Chicago King, and the 1991 version at #9. That feels right.
49.	Ames, Iowa 2010 (27-0) Highest rank is #14 all-time	Ames is generally regarded as Iowa's greatest team ever by virtue of 2 straight state titles and 54 straight wins, and also by virtue of featuring Harrison Barnes and Doug McDermott, who went on to score 16 and 22 ppg, respectively, for North Carolina and Creighton.
50.	Washington, D.C., Archbishop John Carroll 1959 (33-0)	In 1959, Archbishop John Carroll high school won the D.C. city title 79-52 over Cardozo, then won 3 games in a national Catholic tournament sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. They finished 31-0 against high school opponents and went 2-2 against college freshman teams, though their record most often is reported as 33-0. The stars were 6-11 John Thompson and 6-10 Tom Hoover. Yes, that John Thompson. Carroll high school was opened in 1951 and operated by the Augustinian Friars for 40 years. In 1989, the archdiocese merged all 4 of its schools into one at the Carroll location.
51.	Washington, D.C., Springarn 1985 (31-0) Highest rank is #21 all-time	Washington Springarn was good. Sherman Douglas scored 26 ppg in his senior season, then 15 ppg at Syracuse and 11 in 11 NBA seasons. They finished 31-0. The other national championship choice at the time was Baltimore Dunbar, the 1982 national champion, at 28-1. But, on 2 different lists of the top 75 high school teams ever, Flint rates ahead of Springarn and Dunbar at #20 on both lists. Springarn is #21 on one list, but neither Springarn nor Dunbar is in the top 50 otherwise. Flint had the best talent.
52.	Lexington, Kentucky 1922 Not rated among the top 75	Lexington won its 3 rd straight Kentucky championship, beating Frankfort 52-27. They then went on to become the 1 st actual state champion to win the national tournament., beating Mount Vernon, Ohio, 46-28 in the final.
53.	Towson Calvert Hall, Maryland 1982 (34-0) Rated as highly as #59 all-time	Towson Calvert Hall and Baltimore Dunbar, located just a few miles apart in and near Baltimore, Maryland, both finished the 1982 season unbeaten. For some reason, everybody thought that Calvert Hall was better and deserved to be the national champion. Well, the fact is that they had played one another late in the 1981 season, and Calvert Hall won 94-91 in 3OT on a late basket by Duane Ferrell, who went on to play at Georgia Tech and then 11 seasons in the NBA. And, so, Calvert Hall went into the 1982 season rated #2, and they didn't lose. And, they got a signature win, beating 1978 national champion DeMatha 82-76. Of course, Dunbar got two signature wins against 1986 national champion and pre-season #1 Camden, twice, 67-62 and 84-59. Some say that Dunbar was better in 1982 than in 1983, when they did win the national title. Of course, the 2 teams had many of the same players, and in 1982 they were juniors. In 1983, they were seniors. In any event, they didn't play one another in 1982, and Dunbar never caught up. They probably had some common opponents, but not that one can identify online now, some 40 years later. Call it a tie.
54.	Lansing Everett 1977 (27-1) Highest ranking is #40 all-time	Lansing Everett was of course Magic Johnson's team. They beat Birmingham Brother Rice 62-56 to win the Michigan title and finish 27-1. Magic averaged 29 points and 17 rebounds per game.
55.	Hyattsville DeMatha, Maryland 1965 (28-1)	Power Memorial and Lew Alcindor were still all the rage in high school basketball, until they lost to Hyattsville DeMatha, Maryland, 46-43, breaking a 71-game winning streak. DeMatha was now the best, and they've been awarded the mythical 1965 national championship 100 times since then. They were good; of course they were good. Hey, Power was still

	Not ranked among the top 75, superceded by DeMatha's 1973 team rated as highly as #5 all-time	good, though everybody promptly forgot all about them. But, the best team in New York that year was Erasmus Hall in Brooklyn who won the public league title at 22-0 while Power repeated as Catholic league champion. DeMatha finished 28-1. All 5 starters made all-city in D.C. Sid Catlett, the son of jazz drummer "Big Sid" Catlett, was regarded as the best player on the team though it was Bernard Williams who was named all-American. Catlett played college ball at Notre Dame.
56.	Highland Lone Point, Utah 2013 (27-1) Highest rating #49 all-time	MaxPreps split the baby in 2013—naming Highland Lone Peak of Highland, Utah, as its state association champion and Montverde Academy, Montverde, Florida as its academy champion. At the time, one might note, Max had Lone Peak at #1 and Montverde at #3. But, every other outfit that named a national champion picked Montverde, winner of the 4 th annual GEICO national championship tournament. At one level, this should be an easy choice. Montverde beat Lone Peak 66-45 head-to-head. But, Lone Peak went on to play a tough national schedule, and that was its only loss. They beat Proviso East, Illinois; Chester, Pennsylvania; and San Jose Archbishop Mitty, California, among others; then beat Alta 72-39 for the Utah title. Lone Peak was led by Nick Emery, Eric Mika and T.J. Haws, all of who went to Brigham Young where they scored a total of 44 ppg in their college careers. They finished at 27-1.
57.	Louisville duPont Manual, Kentucky 1925 Not rated among the top 75	Louisville duPont Manual won the Kentucky title in 1921, 1923, 1925 and 1931. In 1925, they clobbered Winchester 40-11 in the final, and they were also named national champions in football. Starring in both sports, as well as baseball, was Irv Jeffries, who went on to play several years of major league baseball. duPont Manual opened in 1892, and in 1984 it became a magnet school in the Louisville system. For many years, Manual and Male high schools were the major rivals for athletic supremacy in the city.
58.	Peoria Manual, Illinois 1997 (31-1) Highest rating #60 all-time	Peoria Manual lost to Chicago Carver, but bounced back to beat Chicago Whitney Young 65-62 after trailing 18-4, then beat West Aurora 47-41 to win an unprecedented 4 th straight Illinois title at 31-1. Marcus Griffin, Sergio McClain and Frankie Williams were all back from last year's state championship team. All of them went to Illinois, where they scored 32 ppg among them. The door was opened for Manual to become the unanimous pick as national champions when, first, Manhattan Rice defeated then-#1 Jersey City St. Anthony 82-80 in OT. Baltimore St. Francis then beat the new #1, St. John's at Prospect Hall, 75-74. That was St. John's, located at Frederick, Maryland, only loss as they finished 25-1. They were led by Jason Capel, who went on to score 12 ppg at North Carolina, and Jon Larranaga, who scored 9 at George Mason. They bounced back to win the national title in 1998, however (see above at #44).
59 (tie).	Louisville Central, Kentucky 1956 (39-0); Nashville Pearl, Tennessee 1960; Birmingham Parker, Alabama 1964 (43-1); St. Petersburg Gibbs, Florida 1966-1967; Sarasota Booker, Florida 1967 (38-1) Booker is rated as highly as #28 all-time; Parker is rated as highly as #37 all-time	<p>You may recall Louisville Central, Nashville Pearl and Houston Wheatley described as the most successful of the old Black, segregated schools in the very early days of "integrated" basketball—that is, winning titles in the formerly all-white state associations from 1966 to 1973. All are rated somewhere up above on this list.</p> <p>Now, we look further back to the later days of the old Black segregated tournaments to recognize Black national champions Central (1956), Pearl (1960) and Birmingham A.H. Parker (1964); plus Sarasota Booker, who lost in the 1967 semi-finals with what some believe was the best team ever in the state of Florida.</p> <p>The Big O and Indianapolis Crispus Attucks had already demonstrated to American basketball fans that Black students could play at a very high level</p>

		<p>when Louisville Central won its 2nd straight Black national title. In 1955, they won the national final 85-61 to finish 32-2, now (in 1956) they defeated Lexington Douglas, Kentucky, 81-61 to finish 39-0.</p> <p>Nashville Pearl, Tennessee, won the Black national championship for the 3rd straight time in 1960, and they would make it 4 in 1963. In 1960, they beat West Palm Beach Roosevelt, Florida, 74-50 in the final.</p> <p>Birmingham Parker is regarded by many as Alabama’s greatest high school basketball team ever and, remember, this was a segregated, all-Black school with an all-Black team. They won the Alabama Black high school title, then won the Black national title, beating perennial power Nashville Pearl in the semis and Richmond, Virginia, Armstrong 81-79 in the final. They finished with a record of 43-1. Parker opened in 1900 with the name Negro high school. A.H. Parker was its 1st principle and upon his retirement in 1939, the school was renamed in his honor. By 1946 it was the largest all-Black school in the world with more than 3,700 students. Today it is one of 7 high schools in Birmingham. The student body is 98 percent Black; citywide the number is 95 percent.</p> <p>Sarasota Booker featured Howard Porter, who scored 35 ppg and was considered Florida’s greatest player ever. They outscored their opponents by an average of 102-62 and won the state’s Black championship with an average margin of 49 points. They lost in the semi-finals of the national Black tournament, however, and their school was closed the following year as Sarasota integrated. But, was Booker even the best Black team in Florida in 1967? St. Petersburg Gibbs might have had something to say about that, but while Booker remained loyal to the Black FIAA, Gibbs moved over to the previously all-white FHSAA. As the defending champion of the FIAA, Gibbs was rated #1 in the FHSAA entering the 1966-1967 season. Their 1st game was against #3, all-white Clearwater. Gibbs won 70-66. Later, they beat Jacksonville Terry Parker 69-55 to win the FHSAA title in the 1st year that Black schools could compete. Over the next 2 years, most FIAA teams joined the FHSAA and the FIAA was dissolved. In 1968, not one but 2 former FIAA schools played for the title. West Palm Beach Roosevelt beat Eatonville Wymore Tech for the 2nd title that Black schools were allowed to compete for.</p>
60.	<p>Los Angeles Jefferson 1951 (27-0)</p> <p>Not ranked among the top 75</p>	<p>In 1951, Los Angeles Jefferson won the 1st of 3 L.A. titles in the decade behind the exploits of J.C. Gipson and Algin Sutton. Gipson went on to play with the Harlem Globetrotters for 18 years. Jefferson finished 27-0. Algin Sutton scored 14 ppg over 3 years at Cal Poly. MaxPreps picked Jefferson as their 1951 national champions.</p>
61.	<p>New York Erasmus Hall 1965 (22-0)</p> <p>Not rated among the top 75</p>	<p>Power Memorial and Lew Alcindor were still all the rage in high school basketball, until they lost to Hyattsville DeMatha, Maryland, 46-43, breaking a 71-game winning streak. DeMatha was now the best, and they’ve been awarded the mythical 1965 national championship 100 times since then. They were good; of course they were good. Hey, Power was still good, though everybody promptly forgot all about them. But, the best team in New York that year was Erasmus Hall in Brooklyn who won the public league title at 22-0 while Power repeated as Catholic league champion. Erasmus Hall had George Thompson, who went on to play at Marquette and score 20 ppg in 5 ABA/NBA seasons, and Ollie Shannon, who scored 20 ppg at Minnesota. DeMatha finished 28-1. All 5 starters made all-city in D.C. Sid Catlett, the son of jazz drummer “Big Sid” Catlett, was regarded as the best player on the team though it was Bernard</p>

		Williams who was named all-American. Catlett played college ball at Notre Dame.
62.	St. John's at Prospect Hall, Frederick, Maryland 1998 (25-0) Highest rating #58 all-time	St. John's at Prospect Hall, located in Frederick, Maryland, won its 2 nd national championship under coaching legend Stu Vetter, but its run of basketball success also began to unravel. St. John's beat perennial power Oak Hill in a 32-25 grinder at home on March 2. Midway through the 1 st quarter, leading scorer Damien Wilkins returned to action after missing 6 games due to a suspension. It turns out that Wilkins and girlfriend Allison Mathis had been found "cuddling" in a hallway at school. An exchange of bodily fluids was alleged, and both were immediately expelled. Both parents being heavy hitters, however—Wilkins' father Gerald was a longtime NBA veteran while Mathis' mom was a White House correspondent for USA Today—papers were of course filed, and their expensive lawyer got a court order that put Wilkins back in school and on the court. But, the whole, er, affair led to Wilkins' transfer and the firing of coach Vetter. Wilkins went on to score 11 points at North Carolina State and, after yet another escape to greener pastures, Georgia. Jason Capel and Jon Larranaga were not quite forgotten in all the controversy, and they went on to productive college careers, each of them at just one school. Years later, Mathis was back in the news for heckling LeBron James, for which she obtained voluminous media coverage, which was of course the point, that described her as Chris Bosh's girlfriend. Later still, she was back in court suing Bosh for child support.
63.	Richmond John Marshall, Virginia 2023 (28-0)	Won 7 post-season games by an average of 102-47.
64 (tie).	Los Angeles Verbum Dei 1973 (29-2), 1974 (29-2) and 1975 (28-1) Not rated among the top 75	<p>Los Angeles Verbum Dei was the powerhouse of southern California basketball in the early 1970s. They got a piece of the national title each year in 1973, 1974 and 1975, and their 1971 team was notorious in a slightly different way.</p> <p>DeMatha 1973 is now ranked as one of the top 10 teams of all-time but in 1973 it was denied the #1 ranking by Houston Phyllis Wheatley (43-1) and Los Angeles Verbum Dei (29-2) Verbum Dei was led by sophomores David Greenwood and Roy Hamilton. Both played at UCLA where Greenwood scored 20 ppg and Hamilton 17 as a senior at UCLA. They then scored 10 ppg and 5 ppg, respectively, in the NBA.</p> <p>Greenwood and Hamilton continued to lead the 1974 and 1975 Verbum Dei champions. In 1974, they were the almost-but-not-quite unanimous pick for national champion. They lost twice but beat Long Beach Millikan 70-60 for the southern California title.</p> <p><i>Basketball Weekly</i> joined NSNS in selecting a national champion in 1975, and promptly bollixed up the whole deal, which benefitted Verbum Dei as it turned out. Dave Krider made the picks for <i>BW</i>, and it turned out that <i>BW</i> refused to pay him for one more week of work, and so a final pick was never made. The regular season pick was Verbum Dei, then 28-0. And, that's where things remained. Unfortunately (for Verbum and for <i>BW</i>) Verbum Dei promptly lost to Palos Verdes and their star Bill Laimbeer 61-58 in the CIF southern semis. Krider said that he would have picked Houston Kashmere after that but, again, that pick was never published, so Verbum Dei remains the accidental champion of 1975.</p> <p>Los Angeles Verbum Dei also had some incredible talent from 1969 to 1971 but did not win a national title during this period. They won 3 CIF southern</p>

		<p>section titles from 1969 to 1971 with an 84-4 record. Randy Echols went on to score 9 ppg at Florida Tech. Lewis Brown played at UNLV, scoring 11 ppg over 4 years but, when he died in 2011, he had been living on the streets of Hollywood for 10 years. Raymond Lewis and Adrian Chivers went to Cal State-L.A., where Lewis, the superstar of the group and perhaps of the entire class of 1971, scored 39 ppg one year and 73 points in one game. He turned down UCLA and USC because Cal State got him a red Corvette. He never agreed to an NBA contract, walking out on the Philadelphia 76ers every year for 3 years. He became a street ball legend in L.A., but battled alcoholism and depression. He died in 2001 due to complications from the amputation of an infected leg and a stroke. He and Chivers and 5 other athletes had sued Cal State-L.A., claiming that their promised scholarships had never materialized, only loans, and that when they tried to transfer, their transcripts were withheld because they hadn't repaid the loans. They also charged that they had been pushed into non-existent majors and classes. The players sought \$14 million in damages but settled for \$10,000 per player plus forgiveness of loans and other fees that amounted to \$3,000 to \$7,000 per player.</p>
65.	<p>Manhattan Rice, New York 1999 (27-1)</p> <p>Not rated among the top 75</p>	<p>Manhattan Rice had Anthony Glover and Kenny Satterfield, and now they were joined by Antonio Barnett. Rice finished 27-1 with wins over Christ the King in the Catholic final, and 75-70 over Long Island Lutheran and 86-67 over Queens Cardozo in the New York big-school finals.</p>
66.	<p>Seattle Nathan Hale 2017 (29-0)</p> <p>Rated as highly as #23 all-time</p>	<p>For the 2nd straight year, a bona fide high school was the unanimous choice for national champion. This time it was Seattle Nathan Hale. Among their 29 wins was a 80-77 win over Oak Hill and another over Sierra Canyon 67-65. They also swept through their local competition, beating Seattle Garfield to win the Washington state title. They were led by Michael Porter, Jr., who went on to score 10 ppg in one year at Missouri and 3 other players who played college ball.</p>
67.	<p>Louisville Seneca, Kentucky 1963 (31-1)</p> <p>Not rated in the top 75</p>	<p>In 1963, Louisville Seneca won the 1st of 2 straight Kentucky titles. Wes Unseld starred both years—and especially in 1964—but the bigger star in 1963 was Michael Redd, who scored 26 ppg. Seneca defeated Dunbar 72-66 in the final, and won 4 games by an average of 66-52 to finish 31-1. They lost only to #5 Carr Creek in a January invitational tournament, but Carr Creek's best player, Lewis Couch, suffered a broken wrist against Seneca and was lost for the season.</p> <p>Seneca repeated in 1964, but this team is not as highly rated. They defeated Breckinridge County 66-56 in 1964, and won 4 games by an average of 61-51. Redd (1963) and Unseld (1964) were the 1st two Blacks to be named Kentucky Mr. Basketball. Unseld averaged 24 points and 21 rebounds per game and scored 105 points with 88 rebounds in 4 tournament games in 1964. Seneca was only founded in 1957, and today it is one of 23 high schools in Louisville. The 1963 and 1964 Seneca teams are regarded as among Kentucky's best high school teams ever.</p>
68.	<p>Jersey City St. Anthony, New Jersey 2004 (30-0)</p> <p>Not rated among the top 75, superceded by the 1989 team that is rated as highly as #1 all-time</p>	<p>Heading the list of 2nd tier St. Anthony teams—not quite legendary as compared to the St. Anthony teams listed above—is the 2004 team. But, hey, it was one of St Anthony's 4 undefeated teams, beating Bloomfield Tech for the New Jersey TOC title 67-55 and finish 30-0. Terrence Roberts went on to score 8 ppg in 4 years at Syracuse.</p>
69.	<p>Astoria St. John's Prep, New York 1945 (26-0)</p>	<p>Astoria St. John's Prep won the championship of New York's Catholic league and finished 26-0. Al McGuire was their star. He of course went on</p>

	Not rated among the top 75	to coach Marquette to an NCAA title. MaxPreps likes St. John's as its national champion.
70.	Oakton Flint Hill, Virginia 1987 (23-0) Highest rating #55 all-time	<p>Flint Hill Academy, located in Oakton, Virginia, was founded in 1956, and here's another way in which it's different from Oak Hill, which was founded in 1873 for religious reasons. Flint Hill was quite conspicuously founded in 1956 for racial reasons. After Brown v. Board, Virginia and other states enacted laws designed to 1) maintain segregated public schools, and 2) to make it easy to open up new private schools that would be all-white. It was part of what its proponents called "Massive Resistance," yes, with initial capital letters. It is ironic that 19 years later, Flint Hill committed itself to becoming a national basketball power because of the obvious necessity of recruiting Black ballplayers to do so, though only 2 of the 5 biggest stars touted on coach Stu Vetter's Web site from his Flint Hill days are Black—Dennis Scott and George Lynch. In 1990, the school came into financial difficulties and new owners, and coach Vetter left as the school deemphasized basketball.</p> <p>In any event, for 5 years, anyway, coach Stu Vetter's basketball program was integral to the school's positioning as a refuge from declining public schools. Of course, it was just one of thousands of similar schools, but it did the basketball thing better than most, until it didn't. In short, it was one of the 1st to raise the question: Is this a high school that has a basketball team, or a basketball team that has a high school? Well, it would seem that Flint Hill was a high school with a really good basketball team, albeit one that pushed hard against the putative rules on eligibility and recruiting. This was the 3rd way in which it was different than Oak Hill. It belonged to the Virginia high school athletic association. It really put itself on the map in January 1987 with a win over Santa Ana Mater Dei. By the spring of 1987 it had a 51-game winning streak going. Scott, born in Hagerstown, Maryland, was their star, and went on to score 21 ppg in 3 years at Georgia Tech and 13 in 10 NBA seasons. Lynch scored 12.5 ppg in 4 years at North Carolina and 7 ppg in 12 NBA seasons. Arron Bain, who was white, scored 8 ppg in 4 years at Villanova.</p>
71 (tie).	Cambridge Rindge & Latin, Massachusetts 1981 (26-0); and West Memphis, Arkansas 1981 (30-0) R&L rated as highly as #29 all-time; West Memphis rated as highly as #25 all-time	<p>Cambridge Rindge & Latin went 94-5 in Patrick Ewing's 4 years on-board, including 26-0 in 1981. He scored 41 points in his final game. He went on to star for 4 years at Georgetown, where he averaged 15 ppg and 9 rebounds, then averaged 21 points and 10 rebounds in 17 NBA seasons.</p> <p>West Memphis extended its winning streak to 60 games in 1981 as Michael Cage and Keith Lee continued to dominate. Cage went on to average 25 points and 13 rebounds at San Diego State, then 7 ppg in 15 NBA seasons. Lee averaged 19 points and 10 boards in 4 years at Memphis State, then 6 ppg in 3 NBA seasons.</p>
72.	Brewers, Kentucky 1948 (36-0) Not ranked among the top 75	<p>Brewers was (and is) only the 2nd undefeated Kentucky champion after Ashland (27-0 in 1927). Brewers defeated Maysville 55-48 in the final, avenging a 54-50 loss to Maysville in the 1947 final. Frank Fraley's 28 points was a record for a Kentucky final, but it would stand for just one year. They finished at 36-0. Coy Creason starred, too, making all-tournament and all-state in both 1947 and 1948. He went on to star at Memphis State. MaxPreps prefers them as their 1948 national champion, and who can argue with 36-0. In Kentucky, no less.</p>
73.	Baltimore Dunbar 1992 (29-0)	Baltimore Dunbar, 9 years after its all-time best team of 1983, was again unanimously recognized as the national champions. They were unbeaten again at 29-0 with a signature win over #2 Oak Hill. This time the stars were

	Not ranked in the top 75, superceded by the 1982 and 1983 teams ranked as highly as #1 all-time	Keith Booth, Donta Bright and Michael Lloyd, who went on to play at Maryland, UMass and Syracuse, respectively, all scoring in double figures in their best years.
74.	Memphis Melrose 1974 (33-0) Not ranked among the top 75	Memphis Melrose finished 33-0 with a 66-30 thrashing of Haywood for the Tennessee title. James Bradley, John Gunn and Alvin Wright all went on to Memphis State, and all averaged in double figures. Gunn scored 11 ppg over 3 years, but died after his junior year due to a rare disease called Stevens-Johnson Syndrome.
75.	Collinsville, Illinois 1961 (32-0) Not ranked among the top 75	Collinsville is remembered as one of the greatest Illinois teams of their era, though it's true that there is plenty of competition. They outscored their opponents by an average of 77-55, and were known for great shooting and a trapping, ball-hawking defense. They clobbered Harvey Thornton 84-50 in the 1961 final. Located in southwestern Illinois, near St. Louis, Collinsville remains the only high school in town.
76.	Ambridge, Pennsylvania 1967 (27-0) Not ranked among the top 75	Ambridge won the Pennsylvania title easily, beating Chester 93-61 to finish 27-0. Ambridge was led by coach Chuck DeVenzio; his son and point guard Dick DeVenzio, who played at Duke; Frank Kaufman, who played at Purdue; and Dennis Wuycik, who played at North Carolina.
77.	Camden, New Jersey 1986 (30-0) Highest rating #65 all-time	Camden, New Jersey, was rated #1 at the time, and the more recent lists of the greatest teams ever do not elevate anybody else from 1986 ahead of the Bulldogs. On the other hand, they're only rated #65 on one list. They were led by Louis Banks, who went on to score 14 ppg at Cincinnati, and Vic Carstarphen, who scored 7.5 at Temple.
78.	Yonkers, New York 1932 Not rated among the top 75	Yonkers won the New York state title in 1927 and 1928 and again in 1932, winning 32 consecutive games, including 12 post-season games in 1932. They defeated Johnson City 34-18 for the state title. They became known as "the Merriwell 5," after the fictional sports hero Frank Merriwell. Their Frank Merriwell was "the invincible captain, Melvin Nelson." Yonkers is now served by 6 high schools, and the old Yonkers high houses both a middle and a senior high school.
79.	New Haven Wilbur Cross, Connecticut 1968 Not ranked among the top 75	<p>New Haven Wilbur Cross and New Haven Hillhouse are the Celtics and the Lakers, the Dodgers and the Yankees, of Connecticut high school ball. By the time Wilbur Cross ever got to a state final, however, Hillhouse was already 10-5 in state finals, including 4 straight titles in 1945 through 1948. But, Wilbur Cross came on strong, winning 4 straight from 1958 to 1961 and 2 more in 1966 and 1967. Today (2022) Hillhouse is 19-7 and Wilbur Cross 14-5 in Connecticut state finals, and Hillhouse has won 4 of 5 head-to-head state final matchups.</p> <p>But, Wilbur Cross can take solace in knowing that the greatest team in Connecticut history was its 1968 champions. They won their 3rd straight state title, and in 1968 it came by the ridiculous margin of 123-82 over Bridgeport Central. Alex Scott and Clint Davis were the stars of those teams, but in 1968 there also came along a sophomore named John Williamson. In the 1968 final, Davis scored 40 points, Scott 24 and Williamson 17 points. All 3 went on to play at New Mexico State where Williamson scored 27 ppg over 2 seasons. He then played 8 years in the NBA, averaging 17.5 ppg, but his career ended at the age of 28 due to a lack of conditioning. He died of kidney failure related to diabetes at the age of 45.</p>

80 (tie).	<p>New York Benjamin Franklin 1938; and Brooklyn James Madison 1939</p> <p>Not ranked among the top 75</p>	<p>Benjamin Franklin won the New York public school title in 1938, beating Newtown 29-27 behind the exploits of "Pops" Gates, who joined the New York Renaissance immediately upon completing his high school career. Ben Franklin then went on to win 42 straight games from 1939 to 1942. Benjamin Franklin, located in the Harlem neighborhood of Manhattan, was reported to be the largest high school east of the Mississippi with 500 rooms.</p> <p>Brooklyn James Madison won the PSAL title the following year en route to a 37-game winning streak. They also defeated Benjamin Franklin, breaking Franklin's 23-game winning streak. Madison's star was 6-2 Andrew "Fuzzy" Levane, who would go on to play at St. John's and for 3 seasons in the NBA. In fact, all of Madison's top 6 players went on to play professionally. MaxPreps likes Madison as its 1939 national champion and we agree.</p>
81.	<p>Indianapolis Washington 1969 (31-0)</p> <p>Not ranked among the top 75</p>	<p>Indianapolis Washington (not to be confused with Washington, Indiana, or East Chicago Washington) won its 2nd state title in 5 years, beating Gary Tolleston 79-76 in the final to finish 31-0. Washington was led by George McGinnis and Steve Downing, both of whom went on to play at Indiana U. They scored 55 points with 43 rebounds between them this year. McGinnis scored 35 in the state final, then 53 in the Indiana-Kentucky all-star game. He has to be considered to be among the top 5 to 10 high school players ever. He scored 30 ppg at IU his 1st year, then turned pro and score 20 ppg over 11 NBA seasons. Downing averaged 16 points and 12 boards in 3 years at IU.</p>
82.	<p>Whittier, California 1916 (21-1)</p> <p>Not ranked among the top 75</p>	<p>Whittier beat Berkeley 31-20 to win the 1st statewide California title, after winning their 6th straight southern California title, with a 21-1 record. Whittier is now served by 5 school districts and 14 high schools of which Whittier high is still one. MaxPreps likes Whittier as its national champion and they are, of course, a reasonable choice. "Julius Klawans, southern California's leading basketball expert" chose Whittier forward Lester as the state's best player.</p>
83 (tie).	<p>Marion, Indiana 1926 (27-2) and 1987 (29-1)</p> <p>The 1987 team is rated as highly as #61 all-time</p>	<p>Marion defeated Martinsville 30-23 to win the Indiana title at 27-2. A Marion newspaper reporter picked Kokomo to win the state title in 1926. Marion was not impressed, beating Kokomo 24-8 and riding into the state tournament on a 15-game winning streak. They were led by 6-7 "Stretch" Murphy and 6-3 Bob Chapman, this at a time when 6-feet even was considered tall. They were dubbed "the Marion Giants," and the name stuck. They remain the Giants to this day. Murphy went on to team with John Wooden to lead Purdue to a national championship in 1930, and to win all-America honors 3 times. Chapman played at Michigan. Murphy led the Big 10 in scoring in 1929, Chapman in 1930. Coach Gene Thomas is the only coach to win state titles in Indiana and Michigan (Kalamazoo Central in 1932 and 1939).</p> <p>Marion in 1987 became just the 2nd team to win 3 straight Indiana titles and the 1st in 64 years, beating Richmond for the 2nd of those 3 finals, this time 69-56. Jay Edwards and Lyndon Jones continued to lead the way. One might note that while Flint Hill was a unanimous choice as national champion at the time, a recent list of the best high school basketball teams ever had Marion rated as the #8 team from the 1980s and Flint Hill #10. These were Marion's 4th, 5th and 6th titles overall.</p>
84.	<p>Chicago Phillips 1975 (32-1)</p> <p>Not rated among the top 75</p>	<p>Phillips won the Illinois title with ease, beating Chicago Heights 76-48 to finish 32-1. At least 3 of their players played D1 college ball at places like Louisville, Marquette and Western Michigan.</p>

85 (tie).	<p>Detroit Pershing 1967 and Milwaukee Lincoln 1967 (25-1)</p> <p>Not ranked among the top 75</p>	<p>Here are 2 teams from the same year, 1967, that are widely regarded as the best team ever from their state, but both lost one game and were not generally regarded as contenders for the national title.</p> <p>Detroit Pershing is regarded as one of, it not the best Michigan high school team ever, but Detroit basketball was so good that they didn't even win their conference, the Detroit city. They lost one game and, thus, the Detroit city title, to Northeastern, 63-61. They bounced back to beat Northeastern in the regional playoffs 77-71, then won the state title easily, clobbering Flint Central 90-66. Ralph Simpson scored 43 points in the final and he was not even the best player on the team. That would be Spencer Haywood, who won the state's Mr. Basketball award in 1967. Haywood would be the leading scorer for the U.S. gold medal Olympic team in 1968, then score 20 ppg in 13 NBA seasons. Simpson won Mr. Basketball in 1968 and went on to score 29 ppg at Michigan State.</p> <p>Milwaukee Lincoln averaged 99.8 ppg, and defeated Wausau 61-56 for the state title. Their best player was forward John Rushing, who graduated at mid-year, but they won the state title without him. Clarence Sherrod returned from the 1966 state champions, then played at Wisconsin.</p>
86 (tie).	<p>Jersey City St. Anthony 2012 (30-0) and 2016 (30-0)</p> <p>Not ranked among the top 75, but superceded by St. Anthony's 1989 team, which is rated as highly as #1 all-time</p>	<p>2012 was the 1st time that MaxPreps split the baby, naming Jersey City St. Anthony as its "statewide association" national champion and Oak Hill as its "academy national champion." St. Anthony was undefeated for the 2nd straight year and on its way to an 83-game winning streak. Its signature win came against Newark St. Benedict 51-50, and it beat Plainfield for the New Jersey TOC championship 66-62. It was led by Kyle Anderson and Josh Brown, who scored 19 ppg between them at UCLA and Temple.</p> <p>In 2016, perennial power St. Anthony somehow managed to go 30-0, one of 4 unbeaten at the New Jersey school, yet was rated only #11 by MaxPreps. This is inscrutable, though it's true that 2016 turned out to be the school's penultimate (2nd to the last) season. It closed in 2017. But, they had 4 players who went on to score in double figures in college, though not at your high D1 schools.</p>
87.	<p>Humboldt, Tennessee 1949 (44-0)</p> <p>Not ranked among the top 75</p>	<p>Humboldt won the Tennessee championship with a perfect 44-0 record and a 46-38 win over Nashville duPont in the state final. Their star was Doug Atkins, who went on to play in the NFL and make his way to the pro football Hall of Fame.</p>
88 (tie).	<p>Winfield, Kansas 1919 (23-0) and Kansas City, Kansas 1923 (31-0)</p> <p>Neither ranked among the top 75</p>	<p>Winfield won the 1st of 2 straight Kansas titles at 23-0, scoring more than 50 points per game. They outscored their state tournament opponents by an average of 30-9. MaxPreps prefers Winfield as its 1919 national champion, and they're a reasonable choice.</p> <p>Kansas City won the Kansas title in 1923, edging Hutchinson 32-31, and then the national title, beating Rockford, Illinois, 43-21. They won 5 games at the national tournament by an average of 39-26 to finish at 31-0. KC high later became known as Kansas City Wyandotte and won a total of 15 Kansas titles. MaxPreps prefers Kansas City as its national champion.</p>
89 (tie).	<p>Pampa, Texas 1953 (26-0) and 1954 (28-0)</p> <p>Not rated among the top 75</p>	<p>Pampa won the 2 straight Texas championships in 1953 and 1954, and was named national champion by Art Johlfs and his National Sports News Service in both years. They finished 26-0 in 1953 with a 61-47 win over Austin high school in the state final. They outscored Austin 25-4 in the 4th quarter after trailing 43-36 after 3 periods. Pampa again was declared to be</p>

		<p>America's #1 team in 1954, beating undefeated Dallas Crozier Tech 47-44 in OT in the state final to finish 28-0 and to run its winning streak to 72 games. Both teams were led by 6-5 Jim Bond, who played college ball at Pasadena Nazarene college and was an alternate for the 1960 Olympics. He was drafted by the L.A. Lakers, but declined to play pro ball in favor of becoming a minister.</p> <p>Pampa high school continues to operate today though, as of 2011, it was rated as academically unacceptable by the Texas Education Agency. We don't agree that Pampa was America's best high school basketball team at this time. We think that the basketball was better in some of America's big cities—Chicago, Los Angeles, New York—where Black players were being integrated into the high school game, though it cannot be denied that Jim Bond was a great player.</p>
90.	<p>Chicago Marshall 1958 (31-0)</p> <p>Not ranked among the top 75</p>	<p>Chicago Marshall was the 1st Chicago team to win the Illinois state championship. Chicago did not play in the 1st 24 Illinois tournaments, then started playing at state in 1931 without winning a championship until now. Only DuSable ever got to the finals but lost to Mt. Vernon 76-70 in a controversial loss in 1954. No less than 5 DuSable baskets were waived off due to charging and traveling calls by referee John Fraser, who a few years later was convicted of fixing games and was banned from officiating at the college level. Now, Marshall defeated Rock Falls 70-64 to finish at 31-0. They were led by George Wilson, who won 2 NCAA championships at Cincinnati, shocking Ohio State and Jerry Lucas both times. Marshall high was founded in 1895, and still serves the Garfield Park neighborhood. Today, 98 percent of its students are Black.</p>
91 (tie).	<p>Carlisle, Pennsylvania 1988 (31-0); and St. Nicholas of Tolentine, Bronx, New York 1988 (30-1)</p> <p>Rated as highly as #53 all-time</p>	<p>St. Nicholas of Tolentine, located in Bronx, New York—popularly known as Bronx Tolentine—was the unanimous choice as national champion in 1988, meaning that it was the choice of the time-tested NSNS, the fairly recent player <i>USA Today</i>, and now the brand new player, the National Prep Poll. All 3 agreed that Tolentine was the best high school team in America. But, based on more recent listings, Carlisle, Pennsylvania, was a strong contender. Recent lists have Tolentine listed as the #9 team of the 1980s and Carlisle as #11. Tolentine had Malik Sealy, who averaged 21 points and 10 rebounds as a senior, then scored 19 ppg in 4 seasons at St. John's and 10 ppg in 8 NBA seasons. Meanwhile, Carlisle had Billy Owens, who scored 34 ppg as a senior, then scored 18 ppg in 4 seasons at Syracuse and 12 ppg in 10 NBA seasons. Carlisle was of course undefeated, while Tolentine was not. Tolentine certainly played a tougher schedule, beating Archbishop Molloy 70-69 and Jersey City St. Anthony 62-58. And, they hammered Our Savior Lutheran 95-69 in the New York state final. They lost in a holiday tournament in Jersey and finished 30-1, while Carlisle was 30-0.</p>
92 (tie).	<p>Champaign, Illinois 1946 (38-1) and Pinckneyville, Illinois 1948 (33-1)</p> <p>Neither ranked among the top 75</p>	<p>Two more of those great downstate Illinois champions: In 1946, Champaign defeated Centralia to win the Illinois state title at 38-1. Champaign was led by sophomore Ted Beach who averaged 18 ppg and made all-tournament. Beach and teammate Jim Cottrell both then played at Illinois, and for their high school and now UI coach, Harry Combes. Beach was all-Big 10 as a senior. Champaign is of course host to the main campus of the University of Illinois.</p> <p>Two years later, Pinckneyville, located even further into southern Illinois, south of Champaign and south even of St. Louis, won the Illinois title, thrashing Rockford 65-39 to finish 33-1. Pinckneyville has won more than 1,900 games, played in 11 state tournaments, and won in 1948, 1994 and 2001.</p>

93.	Chicago Whitney Young 1998 (30-1) Not ranked among the top 75	Chicago Whitney Young lost just one game, a holiday tournament match-up with a Lexington Catholic, Kentucky, that one opposing coach called the best Kentucky high school team he had ever seen. They bounced back to beat Galesburg 61-56 in the Illinois final to finish at 30-1. Their star was Quentin Richardson, who went on to score 18 ppg at DePaul and 10 ppg in a 13-year NBA career.
94.	Inglewood, California 1980 (29-0) Not ranked among the top 75	Basketball Weekly, MaxPreps and NSNS (and we) all agree on Inglewood as the national champion in 1980. They defeated Long Beach Poly for the southern California title in the last year before the statewide championship was reinstated in 1981 (after having been discontinued after 1928). They finished 29-0 as Ralph Jackson and Jay Humphries starred. Jackson scored 8 points with 5 assists per game in 4 years at UCLA. Humphries scored 12 ppg in 4 years at Colorado, and 11 points in 11 years in the NBA.
95.	LaGrange, Illinois 1953 (29-0); and Lexington Lafayette, Kentucky 1953 Neither rated among the top 75	LaGrange, located on the southwest edge of Chicago in the township of Lyons, won the Illinois title in 1953, winning 4 tournament games by an average of 77-59, and beating Peoria 72-60 in the state final. Photos of the championship appear to show that 6 of the 10 players on the team were Black, while a YouTube video of the final against Peoria shows that 3 of the 5 starters for LaGrange were Black. The star, however, was a very large white player named Ted Caiazza, and several of LaGrange's 1 st period buckets were scored on Caiazza's tip-ins of missed shots. LaGrange finished with an unbeaten record of 29-0. Today, the roles have been somewhat reversed as it relates to the school's identity. LaGrange high is now called Lyons Township high school, and it is now described as being located not in Lyons Township but in the village of LaGrange. In 1953, Lexington Lafayette won 10 post-season games by an average of 87-56, and clobbered Paducah Tilghman 84-53 in the Kentucky state final. Their star, Vern Hatton, went on to win an NCAA title and all-America honors at the University of Kentucky. Lafayette was founded in 1939 and later was the 1 st of Lexington's high schools to be desegregated. Today, it is one of 6 high schools serving the city of Lexington.
96.	Dayton Stivers, Ohio 1930 (30-0) Not ranked among the top 75	Dayton Stivers won its 3 rd straight Ohio championship in 1930, beating Lancaster St. Mary's in the final to finish at 30-0. From 1926 to 1930, Stivers went 101-9 with a 46-game winning streak. They were led by Bob McConnell, who went on to play at Dennison college. MaxPreps likes Dayton Stivers as its 1930 national champion, but we prefer Washington, Indiana.
97.	Tulsa Central 1931 (25-0) Not ranked among the top 75	Tulsa Central repeated as Oklahoma state champion in 1931, beating Loyal 49-17 to finish 25-0. It was not only their 2 nd straight title, it was also their 2 nd straight unbeaten season. In 1930, they beat El Reno 23-14 for the title. El Reno would exact its revenge in the 1932 final, hammering Tulsa 35-5. MaxPreps prefers Tulsa Central as its national champion for 1931.
98.	Oakland Fremont 1917 Not rated among the top 75	Undefeated Oakland Fremont (we don't know how many games they played) won the northern California title and then the state championship, beating Fresno 36-12. MaxPreps likes Fremont as its 1917 national champion, and who could argue?
99.	Ashland, Kentucky 1961 (36-1)	Ashland won 7 post-season games by an average of 93-58 to finish 36-1, and to win their 4 th state title. The Tomcats shot 46 percent in 4 state tournament games and beat Lexington Dunbar 69-50 in the final. All 5 Ashland starters went on to play D1 college ball.

	Not ranked among the top 75, but Ashland's 1927 team is rated as high as #30	
100.	Detroit Miller 1947 Not ranked among the top 75	Detroit Miller won the 1 st of 4 straight city titles with a 52-21 rout of Detroit Northern. A newspaper preview of the game shows that all ten starters on the 2 teams were Black. Miller was led by Sammy Gee, who was invariably referred to as "the great Sammy Gee" and who went on to play with the Harlem Globetrotters and also minor league baseball.
Honorable Mention —teams rated in MaxPreps top 75 but not rated among our top 100 Not including "academies" whom we regard as ineligible for high school rankings		
HM	Akron North, Ohio 1935	Akron North won the Ohio title in 1935, beating Akron West 35-22, Columbus Central 46-21 and Coshocton 47-15. They were led by 6-5 center Ed Sadowski, who scored 51 points in the 3 games and went on to win all-America honors for Seton Hall's unbeaten (19-0) team in 1939.
	Ardmore Lower Merion, Pennsylvania 1996 (31-3) Highest ranking is #43 all-time	Ardmore Lower Merion featured Kobe Bryant, who scored 32 ppg in 2016 with 12 boards and 5 assists. Merion defeated Eric Cathedral Prep 48-43 to win the Pennsylvania title at 31-3. Frankly, their #43 all-time rating is based simply on having Kobe Bryant on the team, but they lost 3 times and were not an all-time elite team.
	Ashland, Kentucky 1928 (37-0) Ranked as highly as #74 all-time	Ashland is the only team from prior to 1950 to make the lists of the all-time greats. What did they do to stand out from the mists of history in this way? One can only guess. Surely, Franklin and Passaic should rank more highly from the 1920s! Yes, Ashland won the national tournament held in Chicago from 1920 to 1930, but so did 10 other schools that are not rated in the MaxPreps lists. The fact is that Ashland only won the Kentucky title 13-11 in 4 OT. So, no, there were better teams back in the day.
	Baton Rouge Woodlawn, Louisiana 2003 (39-0) Ranked as highly as #36 all-time	Baton Rouge Woodlawn beat New Orleans Brother Martin 80-63 for the Louisiana title in 2002. They repeated in 2003 as Louisiana champion at 39-0 with a 54-game winning streak. Ledell Eackles led the way and went on to score 23 ppg in his college career.
	Chatsworth Sierra Canyon, California 2019 (32-3) Not ranked among the top 75	Sierra Canyon high school, located in Chatsworth, California, moved up from #4 to #6 to #1 nationally over 3 years, and they did it very simply by moving up to #1 in their home state of California. They lost 3 times, twice to the academy powerhouse, Montverde, but they beat perennial powers L.A. Westchester and Mater Dei and then Sacramento Sheldon 76-52 in the big-school final. This, as you'll recall, was and is the school that LeBron James chose to send his son, Bronny, to, and other talent slowly but surely assembled. Bronny was still just a youngster, so this team was led by Scottie Pippen, Jr., who went on to Vanderbilt where he scored 12 ppg over 3 years. Duane Washington, Jr., also went on to score 11 ppg at Ohio State and Christian Koloko 7 at Arizona.
	Chicago Austin 1905 Not ranked among the top 75	Throughout most of the decade of the 1900s, there was but one jurisdiction that awarded a high school basketball championship, and that was Cook County, Illinois. Probably the best of those earliest champions was Chicago Austin high school, identified as such by its outlandish 66-22 thrashing of Chicago Lake high school in the city final.
	Chicago Farragut 1995 (28-2)	

	<p>Ranked as highly as #9 all-time</p>	<p>This was Kevin Garnett’s team. They were heavily favored for the Illinois title. But, Harvey Thornton shut down Garnett and beat Farragut 46-43 in the state quarter-finals.</p> <p>The point of this Honorable Mention list is not so much to honor the mentioned, though most are deserving of such honor. But, still, the point is more to say that, no, they don’t strike us as top 100 all-time teams. Sorry.</p>
	<p>Chicago Simeon 2007</p> <p>Ranked as highly as #41 all-time</p>	<p>In 2007, Chicago Simeon was led by guard Derrick Rose, and they (and he) had 2 highly publicized match games. Simeon beat Oak Hill and Brandon Jennings in one, but lost to New York Rice and Kemba Walker 53-51 in the other. Rose averaged 25 ppg, 9 assists, 9 rebounds and 3 steals. In the state final, however, he scored just 2 points, but fed the ball to his big man, Tim Flowers, who scored 35 points, and Simeon easily dispatched O’Fallon high 77-54. Rose, as noted above, took Memphis to 2nd place in the NCAA tournament in 2008. Soon thereafter, it was revealed that Rose’s high school transcripts had been doctored and that he had someone other than himself take his ACT test for him. Memphis’ NCAA runner-up finish ultimately was vacated. Returning to Simeon in 2007, the Wolverines were rated #1 (by <i>Sports Illustrated</i>) and #3 and #4 in various national rankings, and were rated #13 in the 21st century and #41 all-time in other listings.</p>
	<p>Compton Dominguez, California 2000 (35-2)</p> <p>Ranked as highly as #11 all-time</p>	<p>Compton, California, is of course a suburb of Los Angeles and, along with L.A. Crenshaw and Verbum Dei and Santa Ana Mater Dei, Compton high school was one of the great powers in southern California basketball in the decades after World War II. Well, Compton continued to be a power in high school basketball, but somewhere along the way, Dominguez high school replaced Compton high as the place in Compton to go play basketball. You may have noticed Compton Dominguez placing 5th nationally back in 1996 and then 3rd in 1999 (on this list). Well, now, in 2000, they climbed all the way up that mountain to the national championship, as agreed to by all 3 of the arbiters of such things—that is, the NPP, NSNS and USA Today. Dominguez started the year at #1 nationally, and finished that way despite a pair of losses along the way. But, more importantly, they beat #2-ranked Oak Hill 60-47, and that enabled them to hold the top spot despite the 2 losses. Dominguez also won their 4th California title in 5 years, beating Newark Memorial 53-41. They were led by Tyson Chandler, who never played college ball and played 19 NBA seasons, plus 3 other players who scored a combined 31 ppg in their best seasons at D1. They finished 35-2.</p>
	<p>Elizabeth St. Patrick, New Jersey 2007 (30-2)</p> <p>Ranked as highly as #72 all-time</p>	<p>Elizabeth St. Patrick repeated as the New Jersey TOC champion in 2007, beating Bloomfield Tech 85-61 to finish 30-2. They were rated #2 and #6 in a pair of national polls, and were rated #12 in the 21st century and #72 all-time in other listings. Corey Fisher went on to score 12 ppg at Villanova while 3 other players made their way to D1.</p>
	<p>Eugene North, Oregon 1977 (26-0)</p> <p>Ranked as highly as #50 all-time</p>	<p>Eugene North was Danny Ainge’s team. They beat Grant 56-45 to win their 2nd straight Oregon title and their 38th straight game.</p>
	<p>Long Beach Poly, California 1984 (31-2)</p> <p>Highest ranking is #68 all-time</p>	<p>If the mark of a great team is that they blow people out, well, maybe there wasn’t a great team in 1984. Bronx Harry Truman, New York, edged Amherst Sweet Home 67-65 to win the New York state title. Canton McKinley edged Dayton Dunbar 79-75 in OT to win the Ohio title. Chicago Simeon edged Chicago Robeson 44-42. Hyattsville DeMatha, Maryland, squeaked by Baltimore Dunbar 76-73. Logan County, Kentucky, won 3 nail-biters in the state’s sweet 16 finals. Long Beach Poly, California, edged</p>

		<p>Santa Ana Mater Dei, California 45-44. Warsaw defeated Vincennes Lincoln 59-56 in the Indiana final.</p> <p>Or, maybe it's an unbeaten record. Well, funny, nobody ever suggested Camden, New Jersey (31-0) or Logan County (32-0) as national champions. Or, of course, it could be great players! Well, among the 8 aforementioned contenders for the 1984 national title were only 4 <i>Parade</i> all-Americans— Danny Ferry of DeMatha, Gary Grant of Canton McKinley, Chris Sandle of Long Beach Poly, and Kevin Walls of Camden. And, among those 4, only Grant had much of an NBA career. Walls scored 44 ppg in his senior year at Camden, but just 3 ppg at Louisville. Rod Strickland had the best post-high school career at DePaul (17 ppg) and in the NBA 13 ppg in 17 seasons, but he only made the <i>Parade</i> all-America team in 1985 after transferring to Oak Hill. Chris Sandle of Long Beach scored a respectable 14 ppg at Arizona State and UTEP.</p> <p>One can of course assume that the folks back in 1984 knew what they were talking about. NSNS took Long Beach Poly (31-2) while <i>USA Today</i> took Hyattsville DeMatha (39-2). MaxPreps declined to break the tie.</p>
	<p>Minneapolis North 1995 (30-0)</p> <p>Ranked as highly as #66 all-time</p>	<p>Minneapolis North won the Minnesota title at 30-0 behind Khalid El-Amin, who would lead UConn to a national championship 4 years hence. They were rated #66 all-time in a recent listing.</p>
	<p>New Orleans St. Augustine 1995 (37-1)</p> <p>Ranked as highly as #69 all-time</p>	<p>The 1995 field was either very strong or very weak. For one of those 2 reasons, picking a champion was not easy, and yet among all of the usual suspects, the 3 groups that pick national high school basketball champions all agreed on a most unusual suspect and the only team ever in the history of Louisiana to emerge as a winner. That was New Orleans St. Augustine. As recently as 1983, they finished 35-0 as Louisiana state champion and couldn't get within hailing distance of the national rankings. Now, they hammered Baton Rouge Catholic 57-33 to win the Louisiana title with a record of 37-1. Their star was Eugene Edgeron, who scored 4 ppg in 4 years at Arizona and later played for the Harlem Globetrotters.</p>
	<p>Raytown South, Missouri 1990 (32-0)</p> <p>Ranked as highly as #51 all-time</p>	<p>Raytown South is rated #51 all-time. They beat St. Louis DeSmet Jesuit 66-47 to win the Missouri title and finish 32-0. Jevon Crudup went on to score 14 ppg in 4 years at Missouri.</p>
	<p>Washington, D.C., Dunbar 1976 (29-0)</p> <p>Not ranked among the top 75</p>	<p>Washington Dunbar and Brooklyn Canarsie shared the national championship. Dunbar was selected by the time-tested NSNS, while Canarsie was chosen by <i>Basketball Weekly</i> who, you'll recall, botched the job the previous year. Well, Canarsie is not a bad choice, but Dunbar was better. Dunbar defeated DeMatha, and they were led by John Duren, who went on to start for Georgetown for 4 years at the height of John Thompson's dynasty there. 3 other Dunbar starters played at Georgetown, North Carolina State and West Virginia. They finished 29-0. Canarsie finished 24-0 as the New York PSAL champion. Dunbar had a little better talent.</p>
	<p>Wichita South, Kansas 1993 (25-0)</p> <p>Ranked as highly as #46 all-time</p>	<p>Wichita South won the Kansas title for the 1st of 3 times, beating crosstown rival Wichita Northwest 50-45 to finish 25-0. B.J. Williams went on to score 4 ppg in 4 years at Kansas.</p>

Best High School Basketball Team Ever—Our Picks vs. Their Picks

Teams listed in italics are not included in the opposite list

Our Picks	Their Picks
1. Baltimore Dunbar 1983 (31-0) (#4 on the other side)	1. Chino Hills, CA 2016 (35-0) (#2 on the other side)
2. Chino Hills, California 2016 (35-0) (#1 on the other side)	2. Jersey City St. Anthony 1989 (32-0) (#13 on the other side)
3. Indianapolis Crispus Attucks 1956 (31-0) (#8)	3. Indianapolis Lawrence North 2006 (29-0) (#16)
4 (tie). New York Power Memorial 1963 (27-0) and 1964 (30-0) (1964 #11; 1963 unranked [i.e. not ranked in the top 25])	4. Baltimore Dunbar 1983 (31-0) (#1)
5. Baltimore Dunbar 1982 (29-0) (#9)	5. Detroit Southwestern 1991 (26-1) (#9)
6. East Chicago Washington 1971 (29-0) (#13)	6. Hyattsville DeMatha, Maryland 1973 (30-1) (#8)
7. <i>New York Benjamin Franklin 1940 (19-0) (unranked)</i>	7. Southwest Macon, Georgia 1979 (28-0) (#10)
8. Hyattsville DeMatha, Maryland 1973 (30-1) (#6)	8. Indianapolis Crispus Attucks 1956 (31-0) (#3)
9 (tie). Flint Northwestern, Michigan 1985 (28-0) (#23) and Detroit Southwestern 1991 (26-1) (#5)	9. Baltimore Dunbar 1982 (29-0) (#5)
10. Southwest Macon, Georgia 1979 (28-0) (#7)	10. Akron St. Vincent-St. Mary's 2003 (25-1) (#20)
11. <i>Indianapolis Crispus Attucks 1955 (30-1) (unranked)</i>	11. New York Power Memorial 1964 (30-0) (#4)
12. <i>Middletown, Ohio 1956 (25-0) and 1957 (27-0) (unranked)</i>	12. <i>Dolton Thornbridge, Illinois 1972 (33-0) (unranked [i.e. not ranked in the top 25])</i>
13. Jersey City St. Anthony 1989 (32-0) (#2)	13. East Chicago Washington 1971 (29-0) (#6)
14. <i>Duncanville, Texas 2022 (33-1) (unranked)</i>	14. <i>Oakland McClymonds 1960 (22-0) (unranked)</i>
15. <i>West Philadelphia 1977 (39-0) (unranked)</i>	15. <i>Chicago Farragut 1995 (28-2) (unranked)</i>
16. Indianapolis Lawrence North 2006 (29-0) (#3)	16. <i>Ames, Iowa 2010 (27-0) (unranked)</i>
17. <i>Compton, California 1952 (32-0) (unranked)</i>	17. <i>Compton Dominguez 2000 (35-2) (unranked)</i>
18. <i>Chicago Martin Luther King 1993 (32-0) (unranked)</i>	18. Philadelphia Overbrook 1955 (18-1) (#22)
19. <i>Hyattsville DeMatha, Maryland 1978 (28-0) (unranked)</i>	19. <i>Wichita Heights 1977 (23-0) #51 (unranked)</i>
20. Akron St. Vincent-St. Mary's 2003 (25-1) (#10)	20. <i>Seattle Nathan Hale 2017 (29-0) (unranked)</i>
21 (tie). <i>Passaic, New Jersey 1920, 1921 and 1922 (unranked)</i>	21. <i>Maywood Proviso East, Illinois 1991 (32-1) (unranked)</i>
22 (tie). Philadelphia Overbrook 1954 (20-0) and 1955 (18-1) (1954 unranked; 1955 #18)	22. <i>Philadelphia Simon Gratz 1993 (31-0) (unranked)</i>
23. <i>LaMesa Helix, California 1970 (33-0) (unranked)</i>	23. Flint Northwestern, Michigan 1985 (28-0) (#9)

24. Taylorville, Illinois 1944 (45-0) (unranked)	24. Washington, D.C., Springarn 1985 (31-0) (unranked)
25 (tie). Nashville Pearl, Tennessee 1966 (31-0), and Houston Phyllis Wheatley 1968 (36-0) (unranked)	25. West Memphis, Arkansas 1981 (30-0) (unranked)

15 teams appear on both lists
17 teams appear only on our list
10 teams appear only on their list