

**PORTVILLE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE NEW YORK VOLLEYBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (January 15, 2019) — In its 34th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, today announced Beth Miller of Portville High School as its 2018-19 Gatorade New York Volleyball Player of the Year. Miller is the first Gatorade New York Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Portville High School.

The award, which recognizes not only outstanding athletic excellence, but also high standards of academic achievement and exemplary character demonstrated on and off the field, distinguishes Miller as New York's best high school volleyball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Volleyball Player of the Year award to be announced in January, Miller joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including USA Volleyball players Kayla Banwarth (2006-07, Wahler High School, Iowa), Alisha Glass (2005-06, Leland Public High School, Mich.), Jordan Larson (2004-05, Logan View High School, Neb.) and Foluke Akinradewo (2004-05, St. Thomas High School, Fla.).

The 5-foot-6 senior outside hitter and middle blocker led the Panthers to a 43-2 record and the Class C state championship this past season. Miller recorded 552 kills, 266 digs, 177 service aces and 80 blocks. A three-time First Team All-State honoree, she was selected MVP of the state tournament each of the past two seasons and was named a 2018-19 Under Armour Honorable Mention All-American.

A devoted member of her church community, Miller has volunteered locally on behalf of community clean-up projects and youth volleyball programs. "Beth Miller is just an outstanding volleyball player, the best I've seen all year," said Matt Glover, head coach at Victor High. "She's undersized, but she's incredible. We doubled her and tripled her and she still found a way. She also has a crazy, aggressive jump serve, and she's great with serve receive—she never leaves the court."

Miller has maintained an A average in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to play volleyball on scholarship at Edinboro University (Pa.) this fall.

The [Gatorade Player of the Year](#) program annually recognizes one winner in the District of Columbia and each of the 50 states that sanction high school football, girls volleyball, boys and girls cross country, boys and girls basketball, boys and girls soccer, baseball, softball, and boys and girls track & field, and awards one National Player of the Year in each sport. The selection process is administered by the Gatorade Player of the Year Selection Committee, which work with top sport-specific experts and a media advisory board of accomplished, veteran prep sports journalists to determine the state winners in each sport.

Miller joins recent Gatorade New York Volleyball Players of the Year Mackenzie Cole (2017-18, Connetquot High School), Yvette Burcescu (2016-17, Walter Panas High School), Sam Burgio (2015-16, Eden High School), Leah Meyer (2014-15, St. Mary's High School), and Luisa Schirmer (2013-14, Pittsford Sutherland High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a part of Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Miller has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national youth sports organization of her choosing. She is also eligible to submit an essay to win one of twelve \$10,000 spotlight grants for the organization of choice, which will be announced throughout the year.

Since the program's inception in 1985, Gatorade Player of the Year award recipients have won hundreds of professional and college championships, and many have also turned into pillars in their communities, becoming coaches, business owners and educators.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit www.Gatorade.com/POY, on Facebook at www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY or follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/Gatorade.