

NORTH HAGERSTOWN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE MARYLAND VOLLEYBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (January 9, 2026) — In its 41st year celebrating the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced Caydence Doolan of North Hagerstown High School is the 2025-26 Gatorade Maryland Volleyball Player of the Year.

Gatorade Player of the Year is the top honor in high school sports, celebrating the nation's best high school athletes for their excellence in sport, academics and community. The award recognizes Doolan as Maryland's best high school volleyball player, and she joins an elite legacy that spans professional athletes and coaches to CEOs, such as Kerri Walsh Jennings (1995-96, Archbishop Mitty High School, CA), April Ross (1999-00, Newport Harbor High School, CA) and Campbell Flynn (2024-25, Mercy High School, MI).

The 5-foot-11 senior outside hitter compiled 478 kills and 223 digs this past season, leading the Hubs (24-1) to the Class 3A state championship match. Doolan averaged 7.4 kills per set while posting a .566 kill percentage and a .437 hitting percentage. An American Volleyball Coaches Association Second Team All-American selection, Doolan was the AVCA Region 2 High School Player of the year. She concluded her prep volleyball career with 1,256 kills.

Doolan has volunteered locally on behalf of Wreaths Across America, and she has donated her time as a youth volleyball coach. "Caydence is the kind of volleyball player every coach dreams of," said Lacie Johnson, head coach of North Hagerstown High School. "She's a consistent force, a competitor who plays with intensity, precision and has an unshakable drive to always improve."

Doolan has maintained a weighted 4.12 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a written letter of athletic aid to play volleyball at Marquette University this fall.

The [Gatorade Player of the Year](#) program annually recognizes one state winner from each of the 50 states and Washington D.C., in 12 different sports: football, girls volleyball, boys and girls cross country, boys and girls basketball, baseball, softball, boys and girls soccer, and boys and girls track & field. In total, 610 high school athletes are honored each year. From the pool of state winners, one national winner is selected in each of the 12 sports. The selection process is administered by the Gatorade Player of the Year Selection Committee, which leverages experts including coaches, scouts, media and others as sources to help evaluate and determine the winners in each sport.

As part of Gatorade's commitment to breaking down barriers in sport, every Player of the Year also receives a grant to donate to a social impact partner. To date, the Gatorade Player of the Year program has provided more than \$6.4 million in grants to winners across more than 2,200 organizations.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit playeroftheyear.gatorade.com or follow us on social media on Instagram at [instagram.com/Gatorade](https://www.instagram.com/Gatorade), Facebook at [facebook.com/GatoradePOY](https://www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY) and X (Twitter) at x.com/Gatorade.

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