

NORTHERN VALLEY DEMAREST HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE NEW JERSEY VOLLEYBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (January 8, 2024) — In its 39th year of honoring the nation's most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced Taylor Miller of Northern Valley Demarest High School is the 2023-24 Gatorade New Jersey Volleyball Player of the Year. Miller is the fourth Gatorade New Jersey Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Northern Valley Demarest High School.

The award, which celebrates the nation's top high school athletes for excellence on the court, in the classroom and in the community, distinguishes Miller as New Jersey's best high school volleyball player. From CEOs and coaches to star athletes, Gatorade Player of the Year winners showcase the power of sport, touting an all-star group of alumni that includes Harper Murray (2022-23, Skyline High School, Mich.), Kerri Walsh Jennings (1995-96, Archbishop Mitty High School, Calif.) and April Ross (1999-00, Newport Harbor High School, Calif.).

The 6-foot-2 senior outside hitter led the Norsemen to a 23-4 record and the Group 2 state title this past season, recording 414 kills and 196 digs. Averaging 7.3 kills per set on the strength of a .330 hitting percentage, Miller added 56 blocks and 50 service aces. Ranked as the state's No. 5 recruit by PrepDig, she was also an AVCA Second Team All-American, the NJ.com Player of the Year and MVP of the state final.

A three-year member of her school's Leadership Club, Miller has volunteered locally on behalf of the Closter Food Pantry in association with her church youth group in addition to coaching youth athletes in both basketball and volleyball. She has also donated her time to the Bethel De Gloire Church in Haiti. "From what I've seen of players around the state this year, I think Taylor Miller is most deserving," said Paramus Catholic High School head coach Kim Runge. "At her height, she's a six-rotation player, which is something you don't normally come across. On top of her skillset, her sportsmanship is fantastic."

Miller has maintained a 4.12 weighted GPA in the classroom. She has signed a national letter of intent to play volleyball on scholarship at Marist College (N.Y.) 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 leverages experts including coaches, scouts, media and others as sources to help evaluate and determine the state winners in each sport.

Miller joins recent Gatorade New Jersey Volleyball Players of the Year Brookelyn Talmadge (2022-23, Immaculate Heart Academy), JoAnna Andrews (2021-22, Williamstown High School), MacKenzie Wiggins (2020-21, Sparta High School) and Anna Morris (2019-20, Immaculate Heart Academy), among the state's list of former award winners.

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, Gatorade Player of the Year winners' grants have totaled more than \$4.9 million across more than 1,600 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 Facebook at facebook.com/GatoradePOY, Instagram at instagram.com/Gatorade and Twitter at twitter.com/Gatorade.

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