

**MIDDLE CREEK HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE NORTH CAROLINA VOLLEYBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

**CHICAGO** (January 8, 2024) — In its 39<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation’s most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Avery Scoggins** of **Middle Creek High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade North Carolina Volleyball Player of the Year**. Scoggins is the first Gatorade North Carolina Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Middle Creek 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 Scoggins as North Carolina’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 senior setter led the Mustangs to a 26-1 record and the Class 4A state championship this past season. Scoggins amassed 919 assists, 218 digs and 110 kills, recording 33 assists in the team’s 3-0 win over Cox Mill High in the state final to earn tournament MVP honors. She also compiled 54 service aces and 45 blocks while posting a .455 kill percentage and a .355 hitting percentage and was named a Second Team All-American by the American Volleyball Coaches Association.

Scoggins has volunteered locally as part of blood-donation drives for the American Red Cross. She has also donated her time as a youth volleyball, swim and soccer coach. “Avery Scoggins is an excellent setter and all-court player,” said Michael Webster, head coach of Apex High School. “She is a high-level setter, defender, server and blocker.”

Scoggins has maintained a weighted 4.34 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to play volleyball on scholarship at the University of Arizona 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.

Scoggins joins recent Gatorade North Carolina Volleyball Players of the Year Kiarrah Horne (2022-23, Millbrook High School), Riley Buckley (2021-22 & 2020-21, North Raleigh Christian Academy) and Jade Demps (2019-20, Broughton High School), 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](http://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com) or follow us on social media on Facebook at [facebook.com/GatoradePOY](https://facebook.com/GatoradePOY), Instagram at [instagram.com/Gatorade](https://instagram.com/Gatorade) and Twitter at [twitter.com/Gatorade](https://twitter.com/Gatorade).

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