

**GORHAM HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE MAINE VOLLEYBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (January 9, 2025) — In its 40th year of honoring the nation’s most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Liana Edwards** of **Gorham High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade Maine Volleyball Player of the Year**. Edwards is the first Gatorade Maine Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Gorham High School.

Gatorade Player of the Year is the top honor in high school sports, celebrating the nation’s best high school athletes for their success on the court, in the classroom and in the community. The award distinguishes Edwards as Maine’s best high school volleyball player, and she joins an impressive group of alumni that spans CEOs, coaches and star athletes such as April Ross (1999-00, Newport Harbor High School, Ca.), Kerri Walsh Jennings (1995-96, Archbishop Mitty High School, Ca.) and Ayden Ames (2023-24, Prosper High School, Texas).

The 6-foot sophomore setter and right-side hitter led the Rams to a 13-4 record and the Class A state championship this past season. Edwards recorded 240 assists, 105 digs and 97 kills and was named the Portland Press Herald All-State Player of the Year. She also compiled 35 service aces and 30 blocks along with a .302 kill percentage at net.

Edwards has volunteered locally at Birchwood Horse Farm and as a youth volleyball coach. “Liana is a double-threat on the court as both a fantastic setter and strong hitter,” said Erin Quirk, head coach of Yarmouth High School. “When we played Gorham she was definitely someone we had to watch closely. She played a key role in their state championship.”

Edwards has maintained an A average in the classroom. She will begin her junior year of high school this fall.

The [Gatorade Player of the Year](#) program annually recognizes one winner in the District of Columbia and each of the 50 states across 12 different high school sports - 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.

Edwards joins recent Gatorade Maine Volleyball Players of the Year Danielle Emerson (2023-24 & 2022-23, Biddeford High School), Sophie Dickson (2021-22, Yarmouth High School) and Annika Hester (2020-21, Falmouth 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, the Gatorade Player of the Year program has provided more than \$5.6 million in grants to winners across more than 2,000 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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