

**MADISON-RIDGELAND ACADEMY STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE MISSISSIPPI 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 **Fallon Humphries** of **Madison-Ridgeland Academy** is the **2024-25 Gatorade Mississippi Volleyball Player of the Year**. Humphries is the first Gatorade Mississippi Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Madison-Ridgeland Academy.

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 Humphries as Mississippi’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-1 senior outside hitter led the Patriots to a 36-8 record and the Midsouth Association of Independent Schools Division I tournament championship this past season. Humphries recorded 513 kills and 213 digs, including an 11-kill, eight-dig effort in MRA’s 3-0 win over Jackson Academy in the MAIS tournament final. She also compiled 100 service aces and 25 blocks while posting a .578 kill percentage and a .395 hitting percentage at net. The MAIS Division I Player of the Year, she concluded her prep volleyball career with 1,092 kills and 298 service aces.

A member of her local chapter of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Humphries participated in a service-mission trip to the Dominican Republic in 2023, where she helped run sports clinics and a children’s outreach program. She has volunteered locally at an animal shelter and as part of multiple community service initiatives through her church. “Fallon was absolutely a force to be reckoned with this season,” said Spencer Pittman, head coach of Hartfield Academy. “Madison-Ridgeland Academy was able to play loosely because they could trust that Fallon was going to show up in the big moments and be a steady, grounding force on the court.”

Humphries has maintained a B-plus average in the classroom. She has signed a written letter of athletic aid to play volleyball at the University of North Florida 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.

Humphries joins recent Gatorade Mississippi Volleyball Players of the Year Kaylee Lowther (2023-24, Jackson Academy), Lakin Laurendine (2022-23 & 2021-22, Jackson Academy) and Parker Bracken (2020-21, Jackson 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, 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.