

**EAST PROVIDENCE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE RHODE ISLAND 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 **Keira Mullen** of **East Providence High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade Rhode Island Volleyball Player of the Year**. Mullen is the third Gatorade Rhode Island Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from East Providence 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 Mullen as Rhode Island’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 5-foot-9 junior outside hitter and setter led the Townies to a 14-5 record and a berth in the Division I state semifinals. Mullen recorded 241 assists, 203 kills and 182 digs. The 2024 Division I Player of the Year as named by the Rhode Island Coaches Association, she also compiled 61 aces and 48 blocks. A two-time First Team All-State selection, she earned Division II Player of the Year honors in 2023 before East Providence moved up a classification.

A National Honor Society member, Mullen has volunteered locally organizing a food drive for the homeless in association with the Bread of Life International Worship Center in East Providence. “She was one of the most dynamic players in the league this year,” said Jonathan Bartlett, head coach at Coventry High School. “She’s explosive in terms of her hitting and blocking and she’s also a constant server and a solid setter.”

Mullen has maintained a 3.90 GPA in the classroom. She will begin her senior 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.

Mullen joins recent Gatorade Rhode Island Volleyball Players of the Year Ella Maack (2023-24, North Kingstown High School), Morgan Casey (2022-23, Portsmouth High School), Abby Ryno (2021-22, North Kingstown High School) and Lauren Milani (2020-21, Cranston East 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](https://www.x.com/Gatorade).

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