

LAKE STEVENS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE WASHINGTON 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 **Laura Eichert** of **Lake Stevens High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade Washington Volleyball Player of the Year**. Eichert is the first Gatorade Washington Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Lake Stevens 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 Eichert as Washington’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 junior outside hitter amassed 746 kills and 289 digs this past season, leading the Vikings (29-7-1) to the Class 4A state semifinals. Eichert also recorded 57 service aces, 49 blocks and 47 assists while posting a .464 kill percentage and a .343 hitting percentage at net. A member of the USA Volleyball National Team Development Program and a two-time First Team All-State selection, she concluded her junior year with 1,718 kills in her prep volleyball career.

Eichert has volunteered locally as a youth volleyball coach. “Laura is a very talented player,” said Rose Granroth, head coach of Arlington High School. “She plays with next-level accuracy, power and range in her attacking. She is an offensive and defensive weapon on the court.”

Eichert has maintained a 4.0 GPA in the classroom. She has made a verbal commitment to receive athletic aid to play volleyball at the University of San Diego beginning in the fall of 2026.

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.

Eichert joins recent Gatorade Washington Volleyball Players of the Year Lauren Dreves (2023-24, Columbia River High School), Kyleene Filimaua (2022-23, North Creek High School), Jenna Legault (2021-22, Bothell High School) and Emma Swett (2020-21, Woodland 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).