

LARAMIE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE WYOMING 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 **Tessa Dodd** of **Laramie High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade Wyoming Volleyball Player of the Year**. Dodd is the fifth Gatorade Wyoming Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Laramie 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 Dodd as Wyoming’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-4 junior outside hitter recorded 382 kills and 289 digs this past season, leading the Plainsmen (32-2) to the Class 4A state championship match. Dodd also compiled 60 service aces and 32 blocks. Also the Wyoming Coaches Association 4A Player of the Year, she was 4A All-State honoree.

Dodd has volunteered locally with the Laramie High School Hope Squad, a peer-to-peer suicide prevention group and with the Hapi-ness 5K, which raises money for local cancer patients. She has also donated her time to multiple community service initiatives through the St. Paul’s Newman Center Catholic Youth Group. “Tessa Dodd was the player the other players looked up to,” said Justin Taylor, head coach at Riverton High School. “When they were stuck, they relied heavily on Tessa. She is intense, but also calm throughout the game.”

Dodd has maintained a 4.0 GPA in the classroom. She has made a verbal commitment to play volleyball on scholarship at the University of Oregon 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.

Dodd joins recent Gatorade Wyoming Volleyball Players of the Year Maddy Stucky (2023-24 & 2022-23, Laramie High School) and Alexis Stucky (2021-22 & 2020-21, Laramie 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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