

HIGH-SCHOOL

Picking this week's Journal Girls Basketball Player of the Week is hardly a layup



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The first week of the high school basketball season is in the books. Who was the best of the best?

We're going to let you decide.

During the 2022-23 high school basketball season the Providence Journal will name a Player of the Week for the boys and girls. It's going to run exactly the same as our Football Player of the Week and Soccer Player of the Week honors. The Journal staff will pick five player as nominees every Monday and let fans vote until Thursday night. On Friday morning, we will announce the winner of Player of the Week voting.

How do we decide which five players earn nominations? Exactly how you think – by people spamming our emails and DMs with who should be nominated. Just kidding.

Nominees will be based off statistics reported by coaches during the week. If someone scores 30 points and no one emails or calls in the score, we won't be able to consider that player because we don't have the information.

Players on teams whose coaches fail to report information by 10 p.m. on game nights will not be considered for the award. Reporting scores is the duty of the home team coach, so if a visiting team player has a big game but the score isn't reported, we will still consider them eligible provided their coach sends us the information.

So, what does the Journal Player of the Week get?

Clout. The Providence Journal Basketball Player of the Week is meant to be an interactive way for members of the state's high school hoops community to get involved. There's no prize, other than bragging rights. If you want to win, we encourage nominees to push their candidacy and get friends, families, fans, schools and communities involved.

Voting is open to subscribers only and you can vote as many times as you would like until voting officially closes. Vote now, vote often, and vote again – and tell friends and family to subscribe, subscribe, subscribe so they can take part to.

It's going to be a fun and fantastic basketball season and Player of the Week will only add to it. Let's get things rolling with the first nominees of the season.

Sabanna Berrios, Juanita Sanchez

You hit a career milestone, you're probably going to find you way into a Player of the Week nomination. Berrios, a four-year starter for the Cavaliers, made a layup in the second quarter of their win over East Providence that gave her 1,000 points for her career. She finished the night with 24 points and 12 rebounds.

Lauren Cipriano, Lincoln

In one week Cipriano's established herself as an elite scorer in Division III. The Lions' senior scored 21 in their 48-41 win over North Smithfield on Wednesday and tried to spark a comeback against Pilgrim, scoring 16 of her 25 points in the fourth quarter of the 54-44 loss.

Lusine Hagopian, North Providence

Hagopian and the Cougars didn't start the week the way they had hoped, but the sophomore was a bright spot with 13 points in their loss to Narragansett. Hagopian followed it with a career-high 28 in a 43-35 win over Middletown on Wednesday.

Genesis McNeill, Juanita Sanchez

McNeill might be the only player in the state who you don't raise an eyebrow to when you see a particular stat line. Friday against East Providence, the All-Stater had a quadruple double with 12 points, 12 rebounds, 13 assists and 10 steals in the Cavaliers 68-27 win over East Providence.

Alex Mega, East Greenwich

The East Greenwich All-Stater is chasing records this season and started the Avengers' Division II season off with a bang on Tuesday, dropping 32 points in the team's 57-31 win over Cumberland.