Midwest Members Credit Union Female Athlete Of The Month: Kami Batton Balances Volleyball Leadership With Academic Ambitions

by Dan Brannan, Content Director
October 20 2026 3:59 AM


OILERS
28
3
HOMECO

WOOD RIVER - East Alton-Wood River senior Kami Batton is being recognized for volleyball, crediting the teamwork and encouragement she has brought to her teammates since becoming a team captain as a sophomore.

Batton, who plays under coach Bethany Hoyland, has participated in the sport for about three years. She said the relationships built through volleyball are what she enjoys most.

Kami is a Midwest Members Credit Union Female Athlete Of The Month.

“The teamwork and uplifting spirit I provide to others really keeps me pushing,” Batton said. “During my sophomore year, I earned the title of team captain, and ever since that happened, I have continued to push my teammates and encourage them.”

Her involvement in high school activities has also helped her become more outgoing. Batton said she was shy and quiet after moving schools, but getting involved helped her feel more comfortable being herself.

She credited her parents with supporting her interests and encouraging her to pursue them.

“I would love to thank my parents,” Batton said. “They always continue to push me to pursue the things I love.”

Outside volleyball, Batton enjoys powerlifting. She described herself as a two-time state record holder in the squat and deadlift.

Her accomplishments also extend to the classroom. Batton said she is in the running for valedictorian and was named student of the month for September 2026.

Batton said she probably will not continue playing volleyball in college. She hopes to major in cybersecurity.