## NORTH ALLEGHENY SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE PENNSYLVANIA VOLLEYBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (January 15, 2019) — In its 34th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, today announced Abby Miller of North Allegheny Senior High School as its 2018-19 Gatorade Pennsylvania Volleyball Player of the Year. Miller is the second Gatorade Pennsylvania Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from North Allegheny Senior High School.

The award, which recognizes not only outstanding athletic excellence, but also high standards of academic achievement and exemplary character demonstrated on and off the field, distinguishes Miller as Pennsylvania's best high school volleyball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Volleyball Player of the Year award to be announced in January, Miller joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including USA Volleyball players Kayla Banwarth (2006-07, Wahlert High School, Iowa), Alisha Glass (2005-06, Leland Public High School, Mich.), Jordan Larson (2004-05, Logan View High School, Neb.) and Foluke Akinradewo (2004-05, St. Thomas High School, Fla.).

The 5-foot-7 junior setter led the Tigers to a 47-0 record and their second consecutive Class 4A state championship this past season. Miller recorded 430 assists, 232 digs, 146 kills, 58 service aces and 57 blocks. A two-time First Team All-State selection, she was named Player of the Year by the Western Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic League and the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette.

A devoted member of her church community and a talented musician, Miller has volunteered locally on behalf of youth volleyball programs. "Abby Miller is one of the smartest volleyball players around," said Meghan Lucas, head coach at Butler High School. "She was the glue on that state championship team. She ran the show and made everyone else around her better."

Miller has maintained a 4.31 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 that sanction high school 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 work with top sport-specific experts and a media advisory board of accomplished, veteran prep sports journalists to determine the state winners in each sport.

Miller joins recent Gatorade Pennsylvania Volleyball Players of the Year Renee Schultz (2017-18, Bishop Shanahan High School), Sam Graver (2016-17, Parkland High School), Kristin Krause (2015-16, Parkland High School), Meg Morningstar (2014-15, North Allegheny High School), and Taylor Leath (2013-14, State College Area High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a part of Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Miller has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national youth sports organization of her choosing. She is also eligible to submit an essay to win one of twelve \$10,000 spotlight grants for the organization of choice, which will be announced throughout the year.

Since the program's inception in 1985, Gatorade Player of the Year award recipients have won hundreds of professional and college championships, and many have also turned into pillars in their communities, becoming coaches, business owners and educators.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit www.Gatorade.com/POY, on Facebook at www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY or follow us on Twitter at <a href="https://www.twitter.com/Gatorade">www.twitter.com/Gatorade</a>.