

SAINT MARK'S HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE DELAWARE VOLLEYBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (January 13, 2020) — In its 35th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company today announced **Savannah Seemans of Saint Mark's High School** as its **2019-20 Gatorade Delaware Volleyball Player of the Year**. Seemans is the fifth Gatorade Delaware Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Saint Mark's 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 Seemans as Delaware'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, Seemans 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-11 senior outside hitter recorded 305 kills, 285 digs, 46 service aces and 25 blocks this past season, leading the Spartans (17-2) to the state championship game. The Delaware Coaches Association Player of the Year, Seemans is a three-time First Team All-State selection and was named a 2019-20 Under Armour Honorable Mention All-American.

A student ambassador in her school, Seemans has volunteered locally on behalf of a food bank, a nursing home and youth volleyball camps. "Savannah Seemans is outstanding," said Susan Heiss, head coach at Ursuline Academy. "She's a strong six-rotation player who can hit from any position, any type of set, with power, but she's also very smart with her strikes. Her back row play is excellent too, and her serves are right on target."

Seemans has maintained a 4.0 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to play volleyball on scholarship at the University of Delaware 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.

Seemans joins recent Gatorade Delaware Volleyball Players of the Year Madeline Matheny (2018 – 19, Charter School of Wilmington), Emily Jarome (2017-18, Padua Academy), Sydney Fulton (2016-17, 2015-16 & 2014-15, Delaware Military Academy), and Abbie Mirabella (2013-14, St. Mark's High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a part of Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Seemans 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 www.twitter.com/Gatorade.

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