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**NORTHWEST HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE MARYLAND VOLLEYBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (January 17, 2017) — In its 32nd year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, today announced Jenaisya Moore of Northwest High School as its 2016-17 Gatorade Maryland Volleyball Player of the Year. Moore is the first Gatorade Maryland Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Northwest 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 Moore as Maryland'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, Moore joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including USA Volleyball players Kayla Banwarth (2006-07, Wahlert HS, Iowa), Alisha Glass (2005-06, Leland Public HS, Mich.), Jordan Larson (2004-05, Logan View HS, Neb.) and Foluke Akinradewo (2004-05, St. Thomas HS, Fla.).

The 5-foot-10 sophomore outside hitter led the Jaguars to a 19-1 record and the Class 4A state championship this past season. Moore recorded 361 kills, 228 digs and 37 service aces. A MaxPreps Underclass All-American, she is a two-time Washington Post All-Met First Team selection and was named Montgomery County Player of the Year.

A devoted member of her church community, Moore has volunteered locally on behalf of youth volleyball programs. "Jenaisya Moore is a very savvy player," said Mary Malinauskas, head coach at Wootton High. "She can crush the ball, but she's smart enough to mix up her shots and use the whole court. You better have a game plan to neutralize her, because just hoping she has an off game isn't going to work."

Moore has maintained a 3.67 GPA in the classroom. She will begin her junior 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.

Moore joins recent Gatorade Maryland Volleyball Players of the Year Megan McTigue (2015-16, Academy of the Holy Cross), Liz Twilley (2014-15, Oakdale High School), Sydney Biniak (2013-14, Howard High School), Alex Holston (2012-13 & 2011-12, Sherwood High School), Megan Rosburg (2010-11, River Hill High School), Katy Buck (2009-10, Mount de Sales Academy), Bailey Webster (2008-09 & 2007-08, St. Paul's School for Girls) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a Gatorade Player of the Year, Moore will be able to select a national or local youth sports organization to receive a grant as part of the Gatorade Play It Forward program. Every Gatorade Player of the Year state winner receives a \$1,000 grant to donate and will have the opportunity to enter for an additional \$10,000 spotlight grant by writing a brief essay explaining why their selected organization deserves additional support. 12 spotlight grants - one for each sport - will be announced throughout the year.

To keep up to date on the latest happenings, become a fan of Gatorade Player of the Year on Facebook and follow the conversation on Twitter #GatoradePOY. For more on the Gatorade Player of the Year program, including nomination information, a complete list of past winners and the announcement of the Gatorade National Player of the Year, visit www.gatorade.com/poy.

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