

**Contact: John Manzo (312-729-3656)**

**SILVERADO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE NEVADA VOLLEYBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (January 17, 2017) — In its 32<sup>nd</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, today announced Sydney Berenyi of Silverado High School as its 2016-17 Gatorade Nevada Volleyball Player of the Year. Berenyi is the first Gatorade Nevada Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Silverado 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 Berenyi as Nevada'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, Berenyi 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-11 junior outside hitter recorded 525 kills, 269 digs and 61 service aces this past season, leading the Skyhawks (31-9) to the Class 4A semifinals. Berenyi was a First Team All-State selection and was chosen Class 4A Sunrise Region Player of the Year.

A devoted member of her church community, Berenyi has volunteered locally on behalf of a women's shelter and a community clean-up initiative. "Sydney Berenyi is just an outstanding volleyball player," said Matt Johnson, head coach at Coronado High. "She loves to compete and she wants the ball at crunch time. She plays with joy and enthusiasm, and she's a great teammate."

Berenyi has maintained a 4.32 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.

Berenyi joins recent Gatorade Nevada Volleyball Players of the Year Cali Thompson (2015-16, Coronado High School), Berkeley Oblad (2014-15, Coronado High School), Deja Harris (2013-14, Calvary Chapel Christian School), Lyndsey Anderson (2012-13, Spanish Springs High School), Makenna Lommori (2011-12 & 2010-11, Yerington High School), Siga Appelgate (2009-10, Green Valley) and Hayley Spelman (2008-09 & 2007-08, Durango High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a Gatorade Player of the Year, Berenyi 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](http://www.gatorade.com/poy).

###