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**HOLLIS-BROOKLINE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE NEW HAMPSHIRE VOLLEYBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (January 16, 2018) — In its 33rd year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, today announced Maddie Norris of Hollis-Brookline High School as its 2017-18 Gatorade New Hampshire Volleyball Player of the Year. Norris is the fourth Gatorade New Hampshire Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Hollis-Brookline 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 Norris as New Hampshire'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, Norris 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 led the Cavaliers to a 21-0 record and their third-straight Division I state championship this past season. Norris recorded 212 kills, 119 digs and 59 service aces while posting a kill percentage of .433. The New Hampshire Volleyball Coaches Association's 2017 Division I Player of the Year, she concluded her junior year with 512 career kills.

Norris serves on the New Hampshire Youth Advisory Council and was chosen to be a New Hampshire House of Representatives Page in 2016. She has volunteered locally with an anti-bullying club and as a youth volleyball coach. "Maddie is a smart player who utilizes power and shot selection to be effective and consistent," said Abby Savard, head coach of Bishop Guertin High. "She has an uncanny ability to read and execute defensively and has a powerful and manipulative serve."

Norris has maintained a 3.51 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.

Norris joins recent Gatorade New Hampshire Volleyball Players of the Year Lauren Hatch (2016-17, Concord High School), Jo Coffey (2015-16, Merrimack High School,) Jen Coffey (2014-15, Merrimack High School), Molly Wotton (2013-14 & 2012-13, Dover High School), Kelsey Berry (2011-12, Hollis Brookline High School), Katie Schwarz (2010-11, Londonderry High School), Maria Kuehl (2009-10, Farmington High School), Amanda Saab (2008-09, Salem High School) and Lauren Laquerre (2007-08, Concord High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a Gatorade Player of the Year, Norris 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 <http://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com/>.

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