

**DUBLIN COFFMAN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE OHIO 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 Riley Wagoner of Dublin Coffman High School as its 2018-19 Gatorade Ohio Volleyball Player of the Year. Wagoner is the second Gatorade Ohio Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Dublin Coffman 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 Wagoner as Ohio'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, Wagoner 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 6-foot senior outside hitter recorded 378 kills and 329 digs this past season, leading the Shamrocks (23-4) to the Division I Worthington Regional semifinals. Wagoner also tallied 49 assists, 45 service aces and 27 blocks, posting a kill percentage of .455 and a hitting percentage of .373. An American Volleyball Coaches Association Second Team All-American selection, she concluded her prep volleyball career with 1,493 kills and 1,114 digs.

An artist whose work is featured at Dublin Coffman High, Wagoner has volunteered locally at polling sites during local elections, and has donated her time at an area food bank and homeless shelter. "Riley Wagoner is the best player in Ohio and changes the dynamic of a team more than anyone else," said Katie Duy, head coach of Olentangy Orange High. "She can do everything extremely well."

Wagoner has maintained a weighted 3.97 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to play volleyball on scholarship at the University of Hawaii 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.

Wagoner joins recent Gatorade Ohio Volleyball Players of the Year Jonni Parker (2017-18, Miami East High School), Shannon Williams (2016-17, Brecksville-Broadview Heights High School), Hunter Atherton (2015-16, Dublin Coffman High School), Margo Wolf (2014-15, Mount Notre Dame High School), and Abby Detering (2013-14, Lake Catholic High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a part of Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Wagoner 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.