

EDMOND NORTH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE OKLAHOMA 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 **Kamryn Bacus of Edmond North High School** as its **2019-20 Gatorade Oklahoma Volleyball Player of the Year**. Bacus is the third Gatorade Oklahoma Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Edmond North 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 Bacus as Oklahoma'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, Bacus 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 led the Huskies to a 30-6 record and the Class 6A state championship this past season. Bacus amassed 617 kills, 410 digs, 69 blocks and 56 service aces while posting a .365 kill percentage. The 2019 Oklahoman Player of the Year, Bacus is a three-time First Team All-City selection. She concluded her prep volleyball career with 1,812 kills and 1,268 digs.

Bacus is an active participant in #Play4Rian, which raises funds to benefit childhood cancer research in honor of her friend, Rian Sanderson, who passed away when she was 11. Bacus has volunteered locally as a youth volleyball coach and has donated her time to multiple community service initiatives through her church. "Kamryn Bacus was a beast this season," said Steph Kane, head coach of Norman North High School. "She was their go-to player all around the court. She is an amazing player."

Bacus has maintained a weighted 3.55 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to play volleyball on scholarship at Lipscomb University in Tennessee 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.

Bacus joins recent Gatorade Oklahoma Volleyball Players of the Year Olivia Curtis (2018 – 19 & 2017-18, Christian Heritage Academy), Alli Evans (2016-17, Edmond Memorial High School), Hannah Rose Frohling (2015-16, Edmond North High School), Audrey Alford (2014-15, Norman North High School), and Josie Gandall (2013-14, Bishop Kelley High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

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

###