

**SOUTHSIDE SCHOOLIDE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE ARKANSAS VOLLEYBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (May 6, 2021) — In its 36<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced Hannah Hogue of Southside Schoolide High School as its 2020-21 Gatorade Arkansas Volleyball Player of the Year. Hogue is the first Gatorade Arkansas Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Southside 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 Hogue as Arkansas's best high school volleyball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Volleyball Player of the Year award to be announced in May, Hogue 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 5-foot-9 senior setter and right-side hitter recorded 664 assists and 194 digs this past season, leading the Mavericks (16-4) to the Class 6A state championship match. Hogue also compiled 51 kills and a .405 kill percentage along with 31 service aces and 26 blocks. Hogue is a three-time First Team All-State honoree and she was selected to participate in the 2020 USA Volleyball Women's Junior A1 National Training Team program. She concluded her prep volleyball career with 2,048 assists.

Hogue has volunteered locally with the Delta Beta Sigma Philanthropic Sorority and as part of multiple fundraising campaigns to benefit breast cancer research. She has also donated her time with the Special Olympics and as a youth volleyball coach. "Hannah is an amazing athlete," said Michelle Smith, head coach of Bentonville High. "She is an amazing leader and has the skills to play any position she wants."

Hogue maintained a 4.0 GPA in the classroom. Taking advantage of NCAA early signing rules, Hogue inked a financial-aid agreement that paved the way for her to enroll at the University of Arkansas. She graduated from high school in December and attended classes during the 2021 spring semester.

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 works with top sport-specific experts and a media advisory board of accomplished, veteran prep sports journalists to determine the state winners in each sport.

Hogue joins recent Gatorade Arkansas Volleyball Players of the Year Clara Parker (2019-20 & 2018-19, Jonesboro High School), Haley Warner (2017-18, Fayetteville High School), and Ella May Powell (2016-17, Fayetteville High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Through Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Hogue has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national youth sports organization of their choosing. Hogue is also eligible to submit a 30-second video explaining why the organization they chose is deserving of one of twelve \$10,000 spotlight grants, which will be announced throughout the year. To date, Gatorade Player of the Year winners' grants have totaled more than \$2.7 million across 1,117 organizations.

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 [playeroftheyear.gatorade.com](http://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com), on Facebook at [facebook.com/GatoradePOY](https://facebook.com/GatoradePOY) or follow us on Twitter at [twitter.com/Gatorade](https://twitter.com/Gatorade).

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