

**OUR LADY OF PROVIDENCE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE INDIANA VOLLEYBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (May 6, 2021) — In its 36th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced Ali Hornung of Our Lady of Providence High School as its 2020-21 Gatorade Indiana Volleyball Player of the Year. Hornung is the first Gatorade Indiana Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Our Lady of Providence 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 Hornung as Indiana'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, Hornung 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-10 senior outside hitter and libero amassed 446 kills, 368 digs, 45 blocks and 28 service aces this past season, leading the Pioneers (23-7) to the Class 4A semifinals. A three-time First Team All-State selection, Hornung was a VolleyballMag.com First Team All-American, a MaxPreps First Team All-American and a 2020-21 Under Armour First Team All-American.

A member of her church's youth ministry, Hornung has volunteered locally on behalf of a soup kitchen, youth volleyball teams and In Heaven's Eyes, which supports the homeless. "Hornung is an incredibly gifted backcourt player who can read and defend at an elite level," said Ryan Woosley, head coach at New Albany High. "She also has every type of attacking shot in her toolbox and can dominate a match at the net."

Hornung has maintained a weighted 4.46 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to play volleyball on scholarship at Purdue University 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 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.

Hornung joins recent Gatorade Indiana Volleyball Players of the Year Melani Shaffmaster (2019-20 & 2017-18, New Castle High School), Kenzie Knuckles (2018-19, Yorktown High School), and Nia Robinson (2016-17, Cathedral High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Through Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Hornung has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national youth sports organization of their choosing. Hornung 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, on Facebook at facebook.com/GatoradePOY or follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/Gatorade.

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