

**BISHOP MANOGUE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE NEVADA 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 Tori Harper of Bishop Manogue High School as its 2020-21 Gatorade Nevada Volleyball Player of the Year. Harper is the first Gatorade Nevada Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Bishop Manogue 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 Harper as Nevada'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, Harper joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including USA Volleyball players Kayla Banwarth (2006-07, Wahler 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-3 junior outside hitter led the Miners to a 7-1 record and the Class 5A Northern Region championship this past season. Harper compiled 116 kills and 13 blocks while posting a hitting percentage of .421. She was a First Team All-Sierra League selection as a sophomore.

A devoted member of her church community, Harper has volunteered locally on behalf of a soup kitchen and youth volleyball programs. "Tori Harper is a dominant player at the net," said Nathan Hallett, head coach at Damonte Ranch High. "She's the biggest, highest, longest kid around, and she comes through at a great clip. There isn't a ball that she can't hit over you. The sky's the limit for her."

Harper has maintained a 3.76 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 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.

Harper joins recent Gatorade Nevada Volleyball Players of the Year Tommi Stockham (2019-20 & 2018-19, Bishop Gorman High School), Whittnee Nihipali (2017-18, Shadow Ridge High School), and Sydney Berenyi (2016-17, Silverado High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Through Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Harper has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national youth sports organization of their choosing. Harper 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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