

**LARAMIE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE WYOMING 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 Alexis Stucky of Laramie High School as its 2020-21 Gatorade Wyoming Volleyball Player of the Year. Stucky is the third Gatorade Wyoming Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Laramie 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 Stucky as Wyoming'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, Stucky 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-2 junior outside hitter led the Lady Plainsmen to a 24-0 record and the Class 4A state championship this past season. Stucky recorded 419 kills, 371 digs, 35 service aces and 32 blocks. The Class 4A Player of the Year and a three-time All-State honoree, she is ranked as the No. 16 player in the Class of 2022 by PrepVolleyball.com.

Stucky has volunteered locally on behalf of the 4-H Club and youth volleyball programs. "Alexis Stuckey is, hands down, the best volleyball player in the state of Wyoming," said Marcy Befus, head coach at Campbell County High School. "She can do it all. She can hit any shot, she's a great blocker, she has great hands. All that said, I'm most impressed with her defense."

Stucky has maintained an A average 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.

Stucky joins recent Gatorade Wyoming Volleyball Players of the Year Danilynn Schell (2019-20 & 2018-19, Kelly Walsh High School), Madison Vinich (2017-18, Kelly Walsh High School), and Kalina Smith (2016-17, Cambell County High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

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