

**CHERRY CREEK HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE COLORADO VOLLEYBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (January 11, 2022) — In its 37<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Carter Booth** of **Cherry Creek High School** is the **2021-22 Gatorade Colorado Volleyball Player of the Year**. Booth is the first Gatorade Colorado Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Cherry Creek 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 court, distinguishes Booth as Colorado'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, Booth joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners, 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-7 senior middle blocker led the Bruins to a 26-2 record and the Class 5A state championship this past season. Booth amassed 335 kills to go with 127 blocks, 70 digs and 35 service aces, while recording a .453 hitting percentage. A First Team Under Armour All-American, she was selected the Class 5A Player of the Year and is ranked as the nation's No. 14 prospect in the Class of 2022 by PrepVolleyball.com.

Booth has volunteered locally on behalf of Volunteers of America's Adopt a Family program and UCHealth diaper drives. "Carter puts up a wall that is hard for opposing hitters to get around," said Ashley Ahlman, head coach at Ralston Valley High School. "Offensively, she's a really smart player who sees the court well. She's also a phenomenal leader for her team."

Booth has maintained a 3.47 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to play volleyball on scholarship at the University of Minnesota 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 leverages experts including coaches, scouts, media and others as sources to help evaluate and determine the state winners in each sport.

Booth joins recent Gatorade Colorado Volleyball Players of the Year Anjelina Starck (2020-21, Rampart High School), Julianna Dalton (2019-20, Chaparral High School), McKenna Sciacca (2018-19, Lewis-Palmer High School), and Keeley Davis (2017-18, Rock Canyon High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Gatorade has a long-standing history of serving athlete communities and understands how sports instill valuable lifelong skills on and off the field. Through Gatorade's "Play it Forward" platform, Booth has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national organization of their choosing that helps young athletes realize the benefits of playing sports. Booth is also eligible to submit a short 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 \$3.5 million across more than 1,300 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) or follow us on social media on Facebook at [facebook.com/GatoradePOY](https://facebook.com/GatoradePOY), Instagram at [instagram.com/Gatorade](https://instagram.com/Gatorade) and Twitter at [twitter.com/Gatorade](https://twitter.com/Gatorade).