

**SUSSEX CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE DELAWARE VOLLEYBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (January 11, 2022) — In its 37th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Brenya Reid** of **Sussex Central High School** is the **2021-22 Gatorade Delaware Volleyball Player of the Year**. Reid is the first Gatorade Delaware Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Sussex Central 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 Reid as Delaware'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, Reid 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 5-foot-10 senior outside hitter recorded 441 kills, 103 digs and 78 service aces this past season, leading the Golden Knights (13-4) to the second round of the state tournament. Reid posted a .450 hitting percentage and averaged 25.9 kills per match, including a state record of 50 in one match. The Delaware Coaches Association Player of the Year, she is a two-time All-State and four-time All-Conference honoree.

A member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Reid has helped provide holiday meals for the needy and has volunteered locally on behalf of the First State Community Action Agency. "Brenya Reid is just at a different level offensively," said Greg Vetter, head coach at Middletown High School. "Her topspin jump serve is electric and her ability to hit over and around most blocks from anywhere on the court puts a lot of pressure on defenses."

Reid has maintained a 3.86 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to play volleyball on scholarship at James Madison 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 leverages experts including coaches, scouts, media and others as sources to help evaluate and determine the state winners in each sport.

Reid joins recent Gatorade Delaware Volleyball Players of the Year Raychel Ehlers (2020-21, Indian River High School), Savannah Seemans (2019-20, Saint Mark's High School), Madeline Matheny (2018-19, Charter School of Wilmington), and Emily Jarome (2017-18, Padua Academy), 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, Reid 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. Reid 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 or follow us on social media on Facebook at facebook.com/GatoradePOY, Instagram at instagram.com/Gatorade and Twitter at twitter.com/Gatorade.