

**KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS-KAPALAMA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE HAWAII 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 **Devin Kahahawai** of **Kamehameha Schools-Kapalama High School** is the **2021-22 Gatorade Hawaii Volleyball Player of the Year**. Kahahawai is the eighth Gatorade Hawaii Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Kamehameha Schools-Kapalama 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 Kahahawai as Hawaii'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, Kahahawai 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-4 senior outside hitter led the Warriors to a 13-5 record and the Division I state championship this past season. Kahahawai compiled 257 kills, 139 digs, 24 blocks and 14 service aces while posting a .408 kill percentage. Ranked as the nation's No. 6 recruit in the Class of 2022 by PrepVolleyball.com, Kahahawai missed four matches early in the season while winning a bronze medal at the Under-18 World Championships in Mexico with the U.S. Under-18 Women's National Team.

Kahahawai has volunteered locally with Helping Hands Hawaii and the Lokahi Giving Project. She has also donated her time as a youth volleyball coach and mentor. "Blessed with the size and frame normally reserved for NCAA national championship contenders, Devin was an unstoppable front-court force," said Al Paschoal, head coach of Baldwin High School. "Surprisingly enough, she was an absolute asset in the back row, excelling to the level of a seasoned libero at times."

Kahahawai has maintained a 3.90 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to play volleyball on scholarship at the University of Texas 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.

Kahahawai joins recent Gatorade Hawaii Volleyball Players of the Year Maui Robins (2020-21, Kamehameha Schools - Kapalama), Elena Oglivie (2019-20 & 2018-19, Iolani School), and Lexis Akeo (2017-18, Kamehameha Schools-Kapalama 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, Kahahawai 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. Kahahawai 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.

###