

**BOTHELL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE WASHINGTON 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 **Jenna Legault** of **Bothell High School** is the **2021-22 Gatorade Washington Volleyball Player of the Year**. Legault is the first Gatorade Washington Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Bothell 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 Legault as Washington'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, Legault 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 senior outside hitter led the Cougars to a 31-3 record and the Class 4A state championship this past season. Legault compiled 478 kills and 401 digs, including 73 kills and 66 digs in Bothell's four-match run in the state tournament. She also recorded 75 service aces, 55 assists and 41 blocks while posting a .468 kill percentage and a .364 hitting percentage. The Class 4A Player of the Year and a two-time All-KingCo Conference First Team selection, she concluded her prep volleyball career with 1,020 kills, 701 digs and 126 blocks.

Legault has volunteered locally as a youth volleyball coach. "Jenna is versatile," said Mindy Staudinger, head coach of Jackson High School. "She has multiple weapons, from her powerful swing and back-row attack to her ability to employ tips and rolls."

Legault has maintained a 3.98 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to play volleyball on scholarship at California State University, Fresno 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.

Legault joins recent Gatorade Washington Volleyball Players of the Year Emma Swett (2020-21, Woodland High School), Chey Jones (2019-20, Tahoma High School), Shea Rubright (2018-19, West Valley High School), and Calley Heilborn (2017-18, Auburn Riverside 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, Legault 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. Legault 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.