ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA VOLLEYBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (January 13, 2023) — In its 38th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Pam McCune** of **St. John's College High School** is the **2022-23 Gatorade District of Columbia Volleyball Player of the Year**. McCune is the ninth Gatorade District of Columbia Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from St. John's College 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 McCune as District of Columbia'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, McCune joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners, including Lexi Sun (2016-17, Santa Fe Christian School, Calif.), Jordan Larson (2004-05, Logan View High School, Neb.), Foluke Akinradewo (2004-05, St. Thomas High School, Fla.) and April Ross (1999-00, Newport Harbor High School, Calif.).

The 6-foot-1 senior middle hitter compiled 197 kills by way of a .503 kill percentage and a .411 hitting percentage, and recorded 154 blocks this past season, leading the Cadets (24-6) to the DCSAA Tournament championship match and the Washington Athletic Conference Tournament semifinals. McCune also chalked up 264 digs, 33 service aces and 27 assists. An American Volleyball Coaches Association First Team All-American selection, she is a two-time WCAC First Team All-Conference honoree.

McCune has volunteered locally as part of a coat drive for the homeless, and she has donated her time to multiple community service initiatives through her church. "Pam is a middle and played six rotations for St. John's all season," said Patrice Arrington, head coach of Flint Hill School. "She is a wonderful teammate and a great leader. She is just awesome."

McCune has maintained a 3.67 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to play volleyball on scholarship at Iowa State University this fall.

The <u>Gatorade Player of the Year</u> 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.

McCune joins recent Gatorade District of Columbia Volleyball Players of the Year Summer Campbell (2021-22, Wilson High School), Rachel Richardson (2020-21 & 2019-20, St. John's College High School), and Lauren Antonucci (2018-19, St. John's College High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Being a Gatorade Player of the Year means paying it forward for the next generation. Through Gatorade's Play it Forward initiative, every Player of the Year receives a grant to give to one of Gatorade's social impact partners, supporting Gatorade's ambition to fuel the future of sport. To date, Gatorade Player of the Year winners' grants have totaled more than \$3.5 million across more than 1,300 organizations.

For nearly 40 years, Gatorade has honored high school athletes at the top of their game as teammates, supporting their communities and achieving academic success. From CEOs and coaches to star athletes and community leaders, Gatorade Player of the Year winners showcase the power of sport.

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.