SKYVIEW HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE IDAHO 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 **Alex Acevedo** of **Skyview High School** is the **2022-23 Gatorade Idaho Volleyball Player of the Year**. Acevedo is the third Gatorade Idaho Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Skyview 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 Acevedo as Idaho'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, Acevedo 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-2 junior outside hitter led the Hawks (22-5) to their third consecutive 4A state championship this past season. Acevedo recorded 339 kills, 151 digs and 33 blocks, posting a .400 hitting percentage on the attack. She was named Idaho's 4A Player of the Year by coaches in the state and is rated as the No. 13 recruit in the Class of 2024 by PrepVolleyball.com.

Acevedo has volunteered locally on behalf of multiple charitable organizations, including the Family Access Network and the U.S. Marine Corps Toys for Tots program, and she will serve as a buddy/mentor for her brother this year at the Idaho Special Olympics. "Acevedo is a multidimensional threat," said Bishop Kelly High School coach Joline Armuth. "She's very reliable and consistent no matter the circumstances. She's also a humble and respectful opponent."

Acevedo has maintained a 4.0 GPA classroom. She plans to graduate from high school early and has verbally committed to play volleyball on scholarship at the University of Oregon 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.

Acevedo joins recent Gatorade Idaho Volleyball Players of the Year Eden Bower (2021-22, Skyview High School), Katy Ryan (2020-21, Lakeland High School), Makayla Sorensen (2019-20, Bonneville High School), and Zoe Thiros (2018-19, Century 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.