WESTBOROUGH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE MASSACHUSETTS 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 **Quinn Anderson** of **Westborough High School** is the **2022-23 Gatorade Massachusetts Volleyball Player of the Year**. Anderson is the third Gatorade Massachusetts Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Westborough 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 Anderson as Massachusetts' best high school volleyball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Volleyball Player of the Year award to be announced in January, Anderson 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 junior outside hitter led the Rangers (21-0) to a Division II state championship this past season as Westborough High School dropped just five sets in 2022. Anderson recorded 322 kills, 144 digs, 48 aces and 30 blocks, posting a .303 hitting percentage and 5.3 kills per set on the attack. The Massachusetts Volleyball Coaches Association named her an All-State selection for the third year in a row, and the Rangers are 53-1 when she's in uniform to this point in her prep career.

Anderson has volunteered locally with the Rangers Give Back program, which organizes yard clean-ups and cares for the elderly in Westborough's community, and she's a member of the National Honor Society. "You just don't see high school kids in Massachusetts who can hit the ball like her," said Frontier Regional High School coach Sean MacDonald. "She can pound the ball. The hard part for us was defending against her versatility."

Anderson has maintained a 4.44 weighted GPA in the classroom. She will begin her senior year of high school 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.

Anderson joins recent Gatorade Massachusetts Volleyball Players of the Year Corinne Herr (2021-22, Concord-Carlisle High School), Sydney Yim (2020-21, Newburyport High School), Dasha Smolina (2019-20, Winchester High School), and Riley James (2018-19, Barnstable 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.