## HENDRICK HUDSON HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE NEW YORK VOLLEYBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

**CHICAGO** (January 13, 2023) — In its 38<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Amya Davis** of **Hendrick Hudson High School** is the **2022-23 Gatorade New York Volleyball Player of the Year**. Davis is the first Gatorade New York Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Hendrick Hudson 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 Davis as New York'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, Davis 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 5-foot-7 senior outside hitter led the Sailors to a 29-3-2 record and a Class B state championship this past season. Davis amassed 518 kills on the strength of a .555 kill percentage, adding 64 aces, 52 solo blocks, 36 assists and 237 digs.

A National Honor Society member, Davis has volunteered locally as a coach for the Hendrick Hudson High School unified basketball team for athletes with special needs in addition to serving as a Peer Leader at the school, helping freshmen acclimate to high school. She also has donated her time to the Hendrick Hudson High School volleyball team's Breast Cancer Fundraising Tournament, a 20-team event that raises money for breast cancer research. "For the past three high school seasons, she has put her team on her back and carried them, and this year to a state championship," said Walter Panas High School head coach Ashley Murphy. "She has a phenomenal arm swing and jumping ability, but her ability to read and see open spots on the court is what makes her so dangerous."

Davis has maintained an A-plus average in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to play volleyball on scholarship at Shepherd University (W.Va.) 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.

Davis joins recent Gatorade New York Volleyball Players of the Year Emma Werkmeister (2021-22, Victor Senior High School), Carlie Rzeszotarski (2020-21, Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake High School), Mychael Vernon (2019-20, Ossining High School), and Beth Miller (2018-19, Portville 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 <a href="mailto:facebook.com/GatoradePOY">facebook.com/GatoradePOY</a>, Instagram at <a href="mailto:instagram.com/Gatorade">instagram.com/Gatorade</a> and Twitter at <a href="mailto:twitter.com/Gatorade">twitter.com/Gatorade</a>.