

**LARAMIE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE WYOMING 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 **Maddy Stucky** of **Laramie High School** is the **2022-23 Gatorade Wyoming Volleyball Player of the Year**. Stucky is the fourth Gatorade Wyoming Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Laramie 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 Stucky as Wyoming'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, Stucky 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-11 junior setter led the Lady Plainsmen (27-8) to a third-place finish in Wyoming's Class 4A this past season. Stucky compiled 892 assists, 261 digs, 143 kills, 61 blocks and 37 aces, posting a .344 hitting percentage on the attack. Rated as the nation's No. 130 prospect in the Class of 2024 by PrepVolleyball.com, she again proved herself to be a true all-court threat, earning Class 4A All-State honors for the third consecutive season.

Also an avid equestrian competitor, Stucky has volunteered locally as president of the Wyoming Quarter Horse Youth Association. "She gave my team fits this season," said Sheridan High School coach Kaitlyn Zarpentine. "She's a smart, aggressive player and extremely impressive when it comes to her tenacity. She carried her team further than people expected them to go this season through her teamwork and leadership. She shut down some of the best outside hitters in the area as that right side blocker, and caused a lot of frustration to defenses by the way she ran their offense as a setter."

Stucky has maintained a 3.51 GPA in the classroom. She has verbally committed to play volleyball on scholarship at the University of Wyoming after playing her senior season at Laramie 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.

Stucky joins recent Gatorade Wyoming Volleyball Players of the Year Alexis Stucky (2021-22 & 2020-21, Laramie High School), and Danilynn Schell (2019-20 & 2018-19, Kelly Walsh 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.