MOUNTAIN BROOK HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE ALABAMA VOLLEYBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (January 8, 2024) — In its 39th year of honoring the nation's most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Hannah Parant** of **Mountain Brook High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade Alabama Volleyball Player of the Year**. Parant is the third Gatorade Alabama Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Mountain Brook High School.

The award, which celebrates the nation's top high school athletes for excellence on the court, in the classroom and in the community, distinguishes Parant as Alabama's best high school volleyball player. From CEOs and coaches to star athletes, Gatorade Player of the Year winners showcase the power of sport, touting an all-star group of alumni that includes Harper Murray (2022-23, Skyline High School, Mich.), Kerri Walsh Jennings (1995-96, Archbishop Mitty High School, Calif.) and April Ross (1999-00, Newport Harbor High School, Calif.).

The 6-foot-2 senior setter led the Spartans to a 46-5 record and the 6A state championship this season. Parant finished with 1,170 assists, averaging 8.4 per set, a program-record 91 aces and 311 digs. She added 221 kills and 53 blocks. An American Volleyball Coaches Association First Team All-American, she concluded her prep career with the most aces (315) and assists (4,408) in team history.

Parant has volunteered locally by collecting Christmas gifts for underprivileged children. She also has donated her time packing meals for the underprivileged with Stop Hunger Now, and passes out meals to those in need through her church at Thanksgiving. "Hannah Parant is special," said Homewood High School head coach Andie Freedman. "She elevated the Mountain Brook offense to the highest levels we've seen from that program. She was very hard to stop both offensively via setter dumps and with her distribution decisions."

Parant has maintained a 3.77 GPA in the classroom. She's made a verbal commitment to attend the University of Alabama, where she will play volleyball beginning 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.

Parant joins recent Gatorade Alabama Volleyball Players of the Year Anna Grace Sparks (2022-23, McGill-Toolen Catholic High School), Audrey Rothman (2021-22, Spain Park High School), Rya McKinnon (2020-21, Hoover High School), and Grace Carr (2019-20, Mountain Brook High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

As part of Gatorade's commitment to breaking down barriers in sport, every Player of the Year also receives a grant to donate to a social impact partner. To date, Gatorade Player of the Year winners' grants have totaled more than \$4.9 million across more than 1,600 organizations.

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/Gatorade and Twitter at twitter.com/Gatorade.