

**MIRA COSTA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE CALIFORNIA 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 **Charlie Fuerbringer** of **Mira Costa High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade California Volleyball Player of the Year**. Fuerbringer is the second Gatorade California Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Mira Costa 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 Fuerbringer as California’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 senior setter amassed 1,134 assists and 240 digs this past season, leading the Mustangs (39-4) to the Open State Tournament quarterfinals this past season. Fuerbringer also recorded 128 kills, 55 blocks and 46 service aces while earning First Team All-American honors from both the American Volleyball Coaches Association and MaxPreps.com. A member of the United States Under-19 Women’s National Team, she missed the first nine matches of the season while helping Team USA take home the gold medal at the U19 World Championships in Croatia.

Fuerbringer is director of a local Feed2Succeed chapter, supporting people in need in the Philippines with food, clothing and medical supplies. In this role, she has organized multiple volleyball tournaments, also playing in these events each year. She has also donated her time as a youth coach and instructor for the Mizuno Long Beach volleyball club. “Charlie Fuerbringer was the best player on the court in every match I have coached against her or watched her play,” said Tommy Chaffins, head coach of Redondo Union High School. “Her intellect, competitiveness, athleticism and decision-making were all A-plus.”

Fuerbringer has maintained a weighted 3.74 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to play volleyball on scholarship at the University of Wisconsin 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.

Fuerbringer joins recent Gatorade California Volleyball Players of the Year Julia Blyashov (2022-23, Cathedral Catholic High School), Elia Rubin (2021-22, Marymount High School), Jessica Smith (2020-21, Aliso Niguel High School), and Mia Tuaniga (2019-20, Mater Dei 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/GatoradePOY, Instagram at instagram.com/Gatorade and Twitter at twitter.com/Gatorade.

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