

**THE ACADEMY OF THE HOLY CROSS STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE MARYLAND 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 **Emmi Sellman** of **The Academy of the Holy Cross** is the **2023-24 Gatorade Maryland Volleyball Player of the Year**. Sellman is the second Gatorade Maryland Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from The Academy of the Holy Cross.

The award, which celebrates the nation’s top high school athletes for excellence on the court, in the classroom and in the community, distinguishes Sellman as Maryland’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 state’s returning Gatorade Player of the Year, the 6-foot-4 senior outside hitter led the Tartans to a 29-0 record and the Washington Catholic Athletic Conference tournament title this past season. Sellman recorded 336 kills and 154 digs while posting a .486 kill percentage and a .396 hitting percentage. She also compiled 56 service aces, 30 blocks and 20 assists. A two-time Washington Post All-Met Player of the Year and a two-time WCAC Player of the Year, she competed for Team USA at both the Under-19 and Under-21 World Championships this past summer.

Sellman has volunteered locally caring for migrant children on behalf of her church community and she has donated her time as a youth volleyball coach. “Emmi single-handedly put her team on her back and guided them through an amazing season,” said Kamisha Kellam, head coach of Bishop McNamara High School. “I honestly looked forward to playing them just to play against her and show my players what an elite, Division 1 player looks like.”

Sellman has maintained a weighted 4.17 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to play volleyball on scholarship at The Ohio State University 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.

Two-time winner Sellman joins recent Gatorade Maryland Volleyball Players of the Year Zaria Ragler (2021-22, Arundel High School), Brooke Watts (2020-21, Arundel High School), and Mary Grace Goyena (2019-20, Mount de Sales Academy), 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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