NEWTON NORTH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE MASSACHUSETTS VOLLEYBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (January 9, 2025) — In its 40th year of honoring the nation's most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Sasha Selivan** of **Newton North High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade Massachusetts Volleyball Player of the Year**. Selivan is the first Gatorade Massachusetts Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Newton North High School.

Gatorade Player of the Year is the top honor in high school sports, celebrating the nation's best high school athletes for their success on the court, in the classroom and in the community. The award distinguishes Selivan as Massachusetts' best high school volleyball player, and she joins an impressive group of alumni that spans CEOs, coaches and star athletes such as April Ross (1999-00, Newport Harbor High School, Ca.), Kerri Walsh Jennings (1995-96, Archbishop Mitty High School, Ca.) and Ayden Ames (2023-24, Prosper High School, Texas).

The 5-foot-9 sophomore setter led the Tigers to a 24-1 record and a Division I state championship this past season. Selivan amassed 673 assists, 133 digs and 115 kills, including a 26-assist, four-ace effort in Newton North's 3-0 win over Brookline in the state final. The nation's No. 128 player in the Class of 2027 according to PrepVolleyball, she was named the Division I state tournament MVP and a Division I All-State selection by the Massachusetts High School Volleyball Coaches Association.

Selivan has volunteered locally as a youth volleyball coach and mentor. "Sasha is in a league of her own as far as Massachusetts' setters go," said Heidi Bruschi, Bishop Feehan High School head coach. "No one else I've seen comes close."

Selivan has maintained an A average in the classroom. She will begin her junior year of high school this fall.

The Gatorade Player of the Year program annually recognizes one winner in the District of Columbia and each of the 50 states across 12 different high school sports – 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.

Selivan joins recent Gatorade Massachusetts Volleyball Players of the Year Quinn Anderson (2023-24 & 2022-23, Westborough High School), Corinne Herr (2021-22, Concord-Carlisle High School) and Sydney Yim (2020-21, Newburyport 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, the Gatorade Player of the Year program has provided more than \$5.6 million in grants to winners across more than 2,000 organizations.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit <u>playeroftheyear.gatorade.com</u> or follow us on social media on Instagram at <u>instagram.com/Gatorade</u>. Facebook at facebook.com/GatoradePOY and X(Twitter) at x.com/Gatorade.