



women of faith pursuing excellence
Xavier College Preparatory
Roman Catholic High School

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January 12, 2012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

XAVIER COLLEGE PREPARATORY STUDENT NAMED GATORADE ARIZONA VOLLEYBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

(PHOENIX) - Xavier College Preparatory is pleased to announce that Bianca Arellano was named the 2011-12 Gatorade Arizona Volleyball Player of the Year by The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPNHS. 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 Arellano as Arizona's best high school volleyball player. She joins an elite alumnae association of past state volleyball award winners, including USA Volleyball players Kim Glass (2001-02, Horseshoe High School, PA), Kim Willoughby (1998-99, 1999-00, Assumption High School, LA) and Ogonna Nnamani (1999-00, University High School, IL).

In addition to her volleyball achievements, Bianca has maintained a 3.96 GPA in the classroom. A devoted member of her church community, she has volunteered locally as an elementary school mentor and on behalf of the Phoenix Baptist Hospital. Arellano has signed a National Letter of Intent to play volleyball on scholarship at the University of Tennessee beginning in the fall of 2012.

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 ESPNHS and the Gatorade high school sports leadership team, which work with

top sport-specific experts and a media advisory board of accomplished, veteran prep sports journalists to determine the state winners in each sport.

Arellano joins recent Gatorade Arizona Volleyball Players of the Year Madison Kingdon (2010-11, Sunnyslope High School), Stephanie Preach (2009-10, Xavier College Preparatory) and Stephanie Preach (2008-09, Xavier College Preparatory) among the state's list of former award winners.

Xavier College Preparatory, located at 4710 North Fifth Street in north central Phoenix, has built an outstanding record of academic excellence, innovation, leadership development, athletics and community service. Xavier is twice recognized as a U.S. Department of Education Blue Ribbon School of Excellence, and recognized nationally for academic excellence by the Catholic High School Honor Roll in 2005, 2006, 2007 and 2008. Xavier was awarded the 2007-08 Siemens Award for Advanced Placement, honoring high schools with high student success rates in AP math, science and technology courses. The Arizona Interscholastic Association awarded Xavier its prestigious H.A. Hendrickson Award (2009) for overall excellence in interscholastic competition and its Blue Cup Award (2006) for excellence in scholastics, athletics and activities.

All Xavier graduates attend post-secondary institutions. Members of the Class of 2011 were accepted at 279 colleges and universities, garnering over \$27 million in college scholarships. Over thirty percent of Xavier students have financial need, and Xavier is strongly committed to educating all qualified students.

Xavier College Preparatory is a Catholic community that strives to prepare young women with knowledge, skills, and integrity to meet the challenges of a changing global society in a positive and productive manner. This pursuit of excellence, individual and cooperative, is our mission.

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