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Contact: Jason Belenke (312-729-3631)

ASSUMPTION HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® KENTUCKY VOLLEYBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (December 12, 2013) — In its 29th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Alexa Filley of Assumption High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade Kentucky Volleyball Player of the Year. Filley is the eleventh Gatorade Kentucky Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Assumption High School.

The award, which recognizes not only outstanding athletic excellence, but also high standards of academic achievement and exemplary character demonstrated on and off the field, distinguishes Filley as Kentucky's best high school volleyball player. Filley joins an elite alumni association of past state award-winners in 12 sports, including USA Volleyball players Kim Glass (2001-02, Horseshoe HS, Penn.), Kim Willoughby (1998-99, 1999-00, Assumption HS, La.) and Ogonna Nnamani (1999-00, University HS, Ill).

The 5-foot-9 senior setter led the Rockets to a 36-6 record, the state championship and a No. 5 national ranking by PrepVolleyball.com this past season. Filley recorded 1,248 assists, 334 digs, 102 kills, 58 blocks and 41 service aces. A 2013-14 Under Armour Second Team All-American, she was MVP of the state tournament each of the past two seasons and is a two-time First Team All-State selection.

Filley has maintained a 3.95 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally on behalf of the Special Olympics, and has donated time feeding the hungry and assisting in a second grade classroom.

"Assumption's got a great team, but Alexa Filley really stands out," said Bill Payne, head coach at Male High. "She's tall, agile, runs their offense, but she adds even more than that. She's a very intelligent, very smart player and she's a threat on the attacking side too."

Filley has signed a National Letter of Intent to play volleyball on an athletic scholarship at Auburn University beginning in the fall of 2014.

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 high school sports leadership team in partnership with <u>USA TODAY High School Sports</u>, 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.

Filley joins recent Gatorade Kentucky Volleyball Players of the Year Courtney Crable (2012-2013, Mercy Academy), Katie George (2011-12, Assumption High School), Jeni Houser (2010-11, Assumption High School), Deja McClendon (2009-10, duPont Manual), Casey Garvey (2008-09, Mercy Academy) and Kaitlynn James (2007-08, Assumption) among the state's list of former award winners.

To keep up to date on the latest happenings, become a fan of Gatorade Player of the Year on Facebook and follow us on Twitter. For more on the Gatorade Player of the Year program, including nomination information, a complete list of past winners and the announcement of the Gatorade National Player of the Year, visit <u>www.gatorade.com/poy</u>.