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**SUNNYSLOPE HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE® ARIZONA VOLLEYBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (December 14, 2010) — In its third decade of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPN RISE, today announced Madison Kingdon of Sunnyslope High School as its 2010-11 Gatorade Arizona Volleyball Player of the Year. Kingdon is the first Gatorade Arizona Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Sunnyslope 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 court, distinguishes Kingdon as Arizona's best high school volleyball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Volleyball Player of the Year award announced in December, Kingdon joins an elite alumni association of past state volleyball award winners, including USA Volleyball Olympians 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 6-foot-1 senior outside hitter led the Vikings to a 41-3 record and their third straight Class 4A state title this past season. Kingdon recorded 587 kills, 385 digs, 78 service aces and 67 blocks while posting a kill percentage of .531. The 2010 Big Schools Player of the Year, Kingdon is a two-time First Team All-State selection and a 2010 Under Armour All-American Second Team honoree.

Kingdon has maintained a 4.0 GPA in the classroom. A member of the National Honor Society, she has volunteered locally as a peer tutor, and as a youth volleyball coach and camp counselor.

"Madison Kingdon is an amazing volleyball player and the best in Arizona, in my opinion," said Sunnyslope High head coach Amber Letarte. "She is powerful in the front row and the back row and she led her team in almost every category. No one works harder in games, practice and training outside of volleyball."

Kingdon has signed a National Letter of Intent to play volleyball on scholarship at the University of Arizona beginning in the fall of 2011.

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 ESPN RISE 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.

Kingdon joins recent Gatorade Arizona Volleyball Players of the Year Stephanie Preach (2009-10 & 2008-09, Xavier College Prep) and Cat Highmark (2007-08, Chaparral) 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 [playeroftheyear.gatorade.com](http://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com).

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