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**MERION MERCY ACADEMY STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® PENNSYLVANIA 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 Shelbey Manthorpe of Merion Mercy Academy as its 2010-11 Gatorade Pennsylvania Volleyball Player of the Year. Manthorpe is the third Gatorade Pennsylvania Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Merion Mercy Academy.

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 Manthorpe as Pennsylvania's best high school volleyball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Volleyball Player of the Year award announced in December, Manthorpe 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 setter led the Golden Bears to a 40-0 record and the Class AA state title this past season. Manthorpe recorded 972 assists, 568 digs, 280 kills and 133 service aces and was the MVP of the Class AA state tournament for a second consecutive season. She's also a three-time First Team All-State selection.

Manthorpe has maintained a 3.61 GPA in the classroom. A devoted member of her church community, she has volunteered locally on behalf of the Special Olympics and Allie's Friends Foundation, which provides comfort for children in medical emergencies.

"She's a left-handed setter who does everything exceptionally well," said George Trabosh, head coach of rival Mt. St. Joseph Academy. "She can attack the ball when called upon, and she has great court presence and leadership."

Manthorpe has signed a National Letter of Intent to play volleyball on scholarship at Seton Hall University 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.

Manthorpe joins recent Gatorade Pennsylvania Volleyball Players of the Year Kate Begor (2009-10, Mt. Lebanon), Danielle Carrozza (2008-09, Merion Mercy Academy) and Helen Fitzpatrick (2007-08, Merion Mercy Academy) 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.

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