

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact: Julie Mason (412-561-1014)**

**RAVENWOOD HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE® TENNESSEE 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 Madelyn Hutson of Ravenwood High School as its 2010-11 Gatorade Tennessee Volleyball Player of the Year. Hutson is the first Gatorade Tennessee Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Ravenwood 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 Hutson as Tennessee's best high school volleyball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Volleyball Player of the Year award announced in December, Hutson 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-5 senior middle hitter led the Raptors to a 49-8 record and the Class AAA state title this past year. Hutson recorded 587 kills, 135 digs, 86 blocks and 76 service aces and was selected as a 2010-11 Under Armour First Team All-American. A three-time First Team All-State selection and the nation's No. 13 senior as rated by PrepVolleyball.com, she has played for the U.S. Girls' Youth National Team.

Hutson has maintained a 4.11 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered at local nursing homes and youth basketball camps, and has participated in mission trips to repair hurricane-damaged homes.

"Hutson can play any one of the front row positions and she's just a powerhouse," said Kim Miller, head coach of rival Franklin High. "She's 6-foot-5, hard to block, she's got the total package."

Hutson has signed a National Letter of Intent to play volleyball on scholarship at the University of Texas 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.

Hutson joins recent Gatorade Tennessee Volleyball Players of the Year Megan Devine (2009-10, Dobyns-Bennett), Nicole Smith (2008-09, Page) and Hannah Shadrick (2007-08, Girls Preparatory School) 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).

###