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**SOUTH ANCHORAGE HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE® ALASKA VOLLEYBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (December 14, 2011) — In its 27<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPNHS, today announced Morgan Hooe of South Anchorage High School as its 2011-12 Gatorade Alaska Volleyball Player of the Year. Hooe is the third Gatorade Alaska Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from South Anchorage 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 Hooe as Alaska's best high school volleyball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Volleyball Player of the Year award announced in December, Hooe joins an elite alumni association of past state volleyball award winners, 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-5 junior setter led the Wolverines to a 26-3 record and the Class 4A state title this past season. Hooe recorded 521 assists, 98 digs, 62 kills, 30 blocks and 25 service aces while posting a kill percentage of .662. A two-time First Team All-State selection, she helped South Anchorage to an undefeated season against in-state competition and she had 35 assists in the state title-clinching victory against Dimond High.

Hooe has maintained a 3.44 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally on behalf of the Special Olympics and as a youth volleyball coach.

"Morgan Hooe possesses great athletic ability and is very technically skilled," said Brian Stenehjerm, head coach of rival Service High. "She is a true competitor with a desire to succeed."

Hooe has verbally committed to play volleyball on an athletic scholarship at Boise State beginning in the fall of 2013.

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.

Hooe joins recent Gatorade Alaska Volleyball Players of the Year Deanna Nielson (2010-11, Dimond High School), Taylor Adams (2009-10, Dimond) and Lauren Fulton (2008-09, Dimond) 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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