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FONTAINEBLEAU HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® LOUISIANA VOLLEYBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (December 14, 2011) — In its 27th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPNHS, today announced Haley Bonneval of Fontainebleau High School as its 2011-12 Gatorade Louisiana Volleyball Player of the Year. Bonneval is the first Gatorade Louisiana Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Fontainebleau 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 Bonneval as Louisiana's best high school volleyball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Volleyball Player of the Year award announced in December, Bonneval 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 6-foot-1 senior outside hitter and middle blocker led the Bulldogs to a 44-1 record and the Division I state title this past season. Bonneval recorded 632 kills, 288 digs, 59 service aces, 40 blocks and 20 assists while posting a kill percentage of .440. An American Volleyball Coaches Association Under Armour Honorable Mention All-American selection, Bonneval is a three-time Division I First Team All-State pick. She concluded her prep volleyball career with 1,628 kills and 581 digs.

Bonneval has maintained a 4.16 weighted GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally at the New Orleans Children's Hospital, on behalf of Habitat for Humanity and as a youth volleyball coach.

"Haley Bonneval may be the best outside hitter from Louisiana in a very long time," said Jimmy Miranda, the director of the New Orleans Volleyball Club. "Haley leaps very high and hits above everyone. She is probably the only Louisiana player who can play for a high level Division I team."

Bonneval has verbally committed to play volleyball on an athletic scholarship at the University of Notre Dame beginning in the fall of 2012.

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.

Bonneval joins recent Gatorade Louisiana Volleyball Players of the Year Katie Lindelow (2010-11, Mandeville High School), Hannah Miranda (2009-10, Northlake Christian School) and Kathryn Stock (2008-09, E.D. White Catholic) 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.