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**MERCY HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® MICHIGAN 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 Maddy Doyle of Mercy High School as its 2011-12 Gatorade Michigan Volleyball Player of the Year. Doyle is the first Gatorade Michigan Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Mercy 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 Doyle as Michigan's best high school volleyball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Volleyball Player of the Year award announced in December, Doyle 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-9 senior outside hitter recorded 717 kills, 501 digs, 121 assists, 107 blocks and 55 service aces this past season while posting a hitting percentage of .387 and leading the Marlins (65-4) to the Class A Regional Final. A two-time First Team All-State selection, Doyle is the 2011 Michigan Miss Volleyball award winner.

Doyle has maintained a 3.51 GPA in the classroom. A member of her school's French Club and Science Club, she has volunteered locally as a Catholic Youth Organization camp counselor and as a youth volleyball coach.

"Maddy Doyle has the ability to completely take over a game," said Mercy High Head Coach Loretta Vogel. "Her knowledge of the game is well beyond that of most college athletes. She is a true leader on and off the court."

Doyle has signed a National Letter of Intent to play volleyball on scholarship at George Washington University 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.

Doyle joins recent Gatorade Michigan Volleyball Players of the Year Alex Lovell (2010-11, Marian High School), Rachel Charles (2009-10, Marian) and Megan Hendrickson (2008-09, Jenison) 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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