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**PAPILLION-LA VISTA SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® NEBRASKA 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 Kadie Rolfzen of Papillion-La Vista South High School as its 2011-12 Gatorade Nebraska Volleyball Player of the Year. Rolfzen is the fourth Gatorade Nebraska Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Papillion-La Vista South 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 Rolfzen as Nebraska's best high school volleyball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Volleyball Player of the Year award announced in December, Rolfzen 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-3 junior outside hitter led the Titans to a 41-0 record and a second consecutive Class A state championship this past season. The returning ESPNHS co-National Sophomore Player of the Year, Rolfzen amassed 402 kills, 382 digs and 53 service aces while posting a .439 hitting percentage. She recorded 15 kills and 15 digs in the 3-0 state title game sweep of Omaha Burke. The Most Valuable Player of the 2010 USA Volleyball Girls' Junior Olympic Championships, Rolfzen is a member of the U.S. Girls' Youth National Team. She compiled 405 kills, 280 digs and 46 service aces as a sophomore in 2010.

Also a basketball standout, Rolfzen has maintained a 4.54 weighted GPA in the classroom. A member of her school's Fellowship of Christian Athletes chapter and the National Honor Society, she has volunteered locally on behalf of her church community as well as the Special Olympics. Rolfzen has also donated her time as an elementary school classroom assistant and as a youth athletic instructor.

"Naturally, with the immense talent of the Rolfzen twins, it seems like it's Kadie's turn as Gatorade State Player of the Year," said Kirstin Olsen of ESPNHS Volleyball. "She stepped up her game to another level this year, improving all aspects and turning it on in big matches against Pius X, St. James and Marian. She led her team in kills and also emerged as a leader and positive influence. She is well deserving of this honor and will continue to grow as a player."

Rolfzen will begin her senior year of high school next fall and has verbally committed to play volleyball on an athletic scholarship at the University of Nebraska 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.

Rolfzen joins recent Gatorade Nebraska Volleyball Players of the Year (sister) Amber Rolfzen (2010-11, Papillion-La Vista South High School), Lauren Sieckmann (2009-10, Marian) and Gina Mancuso (2008-09, Papillion-La Vista South High) 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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