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**CARDINAL GIBBONS HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® NORTH CAROLINA 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 Madison Bugg of Cardinal Gibbons High School as its 2011-12 Gatorade North Carolina Volleyball Player of the Year. Bugg is the second Gatorade North Carolina Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Cardinal Gibbons 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 Bugg as North Carolina's best high school volleyball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Volleyball Player of the Year award announced in December, Bugg 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 setter led the Crusaders to a 22-3 record and their third straight Class 3A state title this past season. Bugg recorded 271 kills, 182 digs, 31 service aces, 20 assists and 20 blocks while posting a kill percentage of .445. The 2009-10 Gatorade North Carolina Volleyball Player of the Year, she is a three-time Class 3A state tournament MVP and a 2011-12 American Volleyball Coaches Association Under Armour First Team All-American.

Bugg has maintained a 4.50 weighted GPA in the classroom. A devoted member of her church community, she has volunteered locally on behalf of multiple humanitarian initiatives in association with her school's Lancer Club and has completed multiple service-mission trips in support of charity organizations in the greater Raleigh area.

"Madison Bugg is the most driven and focused player that I have ever had the pleasure to work with," said Cardinal Gibbons High Head Coach Logan Barber. "Her ability to play outside of her natural position and still dominate her competition at the level that we play is very impressive."

Bugg has verbally committed to play volleyball on an athletic scholarship at Stanford 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.

Bugg, a two-time winner, joins recent Gatorade North Carolina Volleyball Players of the Year Kristen Harris (2010-11, Apex High School), and Andrea Beck (2008-09, Mt. Tabor) 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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