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**RAVENWOOD HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE® TENNESSEE 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 Alyssa Ivey of Ravenwood High School as its 2011-12 Gatorade Tennessee Volleyball Player of the Year. Ivey is the first Gatorade Tennessee Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Ravenwood 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 Ivey as Tennessee's best high school volleyball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Volleyball Player of the Year award announced in December, Ivey 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-8 senior setter led the Raptors (45-8) to the Class AAA state title this past season. Ivey recorded 1,380 assists, 262 digs, 81 kills and 44 service aces. The District 11AAA MVP, she also anchored Ravenwood's run to a state title in 2010.

Ivey has maintained a 3.70 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally on behalf of a food bank and a center for Alzheimer's patients.

"Alyssa Ivey looks tiny, but she can jump out of the gym and she always finds the hitters in the right places," said Kim Miller, head coach of rival Franklin High. "She makes things happen on that team that wouldn't happen if she was wasn't there."

Ivey has signed a National Letter of Intent to play volleyball on scholarship at Middle Tennessee State 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.

Ivey joins recent Gatorade Tennessee Volleyball Players of the Year Madelyn Hutson (2010-11, Ravenwood High School), Megan Devine (2009-10, Dobyns-Bennett) and Nicole Smith (2008-09, Page) 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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