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Contact: Adam Woullard (312-729-3627)

**BURLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® WISCONSIN 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 Kaysie Shebeneck of Burlington High School as its 2011-12 Gatorade Wisconsin Volleyball Player of the Year. Shebeneck is the first Gatorade Wisconsin Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Burlington 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 Shebeneck as Wisconsin's best high school volleyball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Volleyball Player of the Year award announced in December, Shebeneck 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 junior setter and right side hitter led the Demons to a 39-9 record and the Division I state title this past season. Shebeneck recorded 754 assists, 154 kills, 104 digs, 49 blocks and 23 service aces while posting a kill percentage of .474. A 2011 First Team All-State selection, she was named the 2011 Division I State Tournament MVP after distributing 23 assists with 16 kills and 12 digs in a three-set, title-clinching win over Fond du Lac.

Shebeneck has maintained a 4.01 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally on behalf of the Make-A-Wish Foundation, as a peer tutor and youth volleyball coach.

"Kaysie Shebeneck's ability as a setter is what really makes her stand out as a player," said Perris Cooley, head coach of rival Eau Claire North High. "Burlington had the best team in the state and I think she was their best all-around player."

Shebeneck has verbally committed to play volleyball on an athletic scholarship at Texas A&M University 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.

Shebeneck joins recent Gatorade Wisconsin Volleyball Players of the Year Crystal Graff (2010-11, La Follette High School), Crystal Graff (2009-10, La Follette) and Carol Henney (2008-09, Catholic Central) 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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