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**WILMINGTON FRIENDS SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® DELAWARE VOLLEYBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (December 12, 2012) — In its 28th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Lauren Kerrigan of Wilmington Friends School as its 2012-13 Gatorade Delaware Volleyball Player of the Year. Kerrigan is the first Gatorade Delaware Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Wilmington Friends 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 field, distinguishes Kerrigan as Delaware's best high school volleyball player. Kerrigan joins an elite alumni association of past state award-winners in 12 sports, 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 state's returning Gatorade Volleyball Player of the Year, Kerrigan amassed 491 assists, 239 digs, 89 kills, 80 service aces and 39 blocks this past season, leading the Quakers (9-7) to a fifth-place finish in the state tournament. Also the Player of the Year as named by the Delaware Interscholastic Volleyball Coaches Association, the 5-foot-9 senior setter totaled 65 assists and 36 digs in two state tournament matches. She recorded 602 assists, 213 digs, 101 service aces, 81 kills and 43 blocks as a junior.

Also a basketball and soccer standout, Kerrigan has maintained a 3.64 GPA in the classroom. A member of her school's spirit and prom committees as well as the guitar club, she has volunteered as co-clerk of the school's Link Crew peer leadership chapter, as a counselor of diabetic children for Camp Possibilities, as a Special Olympics volleyball and basketball coach, as co-founder of her school's Hope for Haiti fundraiser and as an organizer of a food drive to benefit the Kennett Square Food Kitchen. She also donated her time to community cleanup efforts during a trip to Arenas de San Pedro, Spain.

"Lauren is driven and has a work ethic that is contagious to her teammates," said Bob Trinsey, Kerrigan's coach with the Brandywine Volleyball Club. "One of her best attributes is that while maintaining a high level of competitiveness she can still have fun, and it's still a game in the end. She is one of the best servers in the state. She is involved in almost every play as a 5-1 setter, and when she has to play the first contact, her teammates look for her to attack the ball from the back row. She is also one of the better blockers in the state and maybe the best setter to have every played in Delaware."

Kerrigan remains undecided upon a collegiate destination.

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 the Gatorade high school sports leadership team in partnership with [USA TODAY High School Sports](#), 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.

Kerrigan joins Gatorade Delaware Volleyball Players of the Year Kelly Perillo (2010-11, Charter School of Wilmington), Mariah Henley (2009-10, Ursuline Academy), Nikki Kinnier (2008-09, Ursuline Academy) and Meghan Bonk (2007-08, Ursuline Academy) 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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