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**BISHOP MOORE HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® FLORIDA 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 Lindsey Owens of Bishop Moore High School as its 2012-13 Gatorade Florida Volleyball Player of the Year. Owens is the first Gatorade Florida Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Bishop Moore 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 field, distinguishes Owens as Florida's best high school volleyball player. Owens 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 6-foot-2 senior outside hitter led the Hornets to a 32-0 record and the Class 4A state championship this past season. Also the state's Miss Volleyball as named by the Florida Dairy Farmers Association, Owens amassed 421 kills, 269 digs, 45 assists, 38 service aces and 20.5 blocks, compiling a .439 hitting percentage. A three-time Amateur Athletic Union Junior National Championships All-American and gold medalist, her 37 kills and 20 digs in the Class 4A state semifinals lifted Bishop Moore to a 3-2 win over Ransom Everglades and into the state title match, where she produced 14 kills and seven digs in a 3-1 victory against Berkeley Prep.

Owens has maintained a 3.98 GPA in the classroom. A member of the Rho Kappa and Mu Alpha Theta English and National honor societies, she has donated her time as a peer tutor in addition to serving as co-founder of her school's African-American Culture Club.

"Lindsey is a threat from all areas of the court," said Bishop Moore head coach Tanya Jarvis. "She was our go-to hitter and has been for her past four years here. As everyone is awed by her attacking, what they don't realize is she is our best passer. She is a very determined young lady who will do whatever it takes for the team to be successful. Lindsey rises to every challenge that comes her way and is an inspiration to all her teammates and coaches as she faces them with an 'all about the team' mindset."

Owens has signed a National Letter of Intent to play volleyball on scholarship at Virginia Tech 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 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.

Owens joins recent Gatorade Florida Volleyball Players of the Year Jordan Burgess (2011-12 & 2010-11, Berkeley Preparatory School), Maddie Martin (2009-10, H.B. Plant), Jessica Yingling (2008-09, HB Plant) and Kellie Catanach (2007-08, HB Plant) 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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