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**PAPILLION-LA VISTA SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® NEBRASKA 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 Amber Rolfzen of Papillion-La Vista South High School as its 2012-13 Gatorade Nebraska Volleyball Player of the Year. Rolfzen is the fourth Gatorade Nebraska Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Papillion-La Vista South 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 Rolfzen as Nebraska's best high school volleyball player. Rolfzen 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 2010-11 Gatorade Volleyball Player of the Year, Rolfzen led the Titans (42-1) to a third consecutive Class A state championship this past season. An Under Armour First Team All-America selection as named by the American Volleyball Coaches Association, the 6-foot-3 senior outside hitter slammed 380 kills while compiling a .325 hitting percentage. Rolfzen also amassed 248 digs, 27 blocks and 24 service aces. A member of the USA Volleyball Women's Junior National Team and an Amateur Athletic Union Girls' Junior National Volleyball Championships All-American, she collected 11 kills and nine digs in a Class A state title sweep of Omaha Marian.

Also a basketball standout, Rolfzen has maintained a 4.53 weighted GPA in the classroom. A member of her school's Fellowship of Christian Athletes chapter and the National Honor Society, she has volunteered locally on behalf of her church community as well as the Special Olympics. Rolfzen has also donated her time as an elementary school classroom assistant and as a youth sports instructor.

"I thought she was really consistent with her hitting percentage, ball control and defense all season," said Papillion-La Vista South head coach Gwen Egbert. "I thought she just had a really good year. In several big matches, Amber played really well. She stood out. This year, she was one of our more consistent attackers, she was up there in blocks and she ranked second on the team in digs, even though she started in the front row. That says a lot. She came up biggest in key moments for us this season."

Rolfzen has signed a National Letter of Intent to play volleyball on scholarship at the University of Nebraska 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.

Rolfzen joins recent Gatorade Nebraska Volleyball Players of the Year Kadie Rolfzen (2011-12, Papillion-La Vista South High School), Lauren Sieckmann (2009-10, Marian), Gina Mancuso (2008-09, Marian) and Lauren Cook (2007-08, Pius X) 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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