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DOVER HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® NEW HAMPSHIRE 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 Molly Wotton of Dover High School as its 2012-13 Gatorade New Hampshire Volleyball Player of the Year. Wotton is the first Gatorade New Hampshire Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Dover 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 Wotton as New Hampshire's best high school volleyball player. Wotton 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 5-foot-11 junior outside hitter recorded 272 kills, 148 digs, 76 service aces and 44 blocks while posting a hitting percentage of .402 and a kill percentage of .564 this past season, leading the Green Wave (17-4) to the Division I state semifinals. The 2012 Coaches Division I Player of the Year and the New Hampshire Union-Leader Player of the Year, Wotton is a two-time First Team All-State selection. She concluded her prep volleyball career with 552 kills and 147 service aces.

Wotton has maintained a B average in the classroom. She has volunteered locally on behalf of the Special Olympics, her church nursery school and as a youth basketball coach.

"Molly Wotton is one of the more gifted and talented players I have seen at the high school level," said Sean Hogan, head coach of Timberlane High. "Molly can completely take over a match with her attack or her serve."

Wotton has verbally committed to play volleyball on an athletic scholarship at the University of New Hampshire beginning in the fall of 2014.

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.

Wotton joins recent Gatorade New Hampshire Volleyball Players of the Year Kelsey Berry (2011-12, Hollis Brookline High School), Katie Schwarz (2010-11, Londonderry High School), Maria Kuehl (2009-10, Farmington), Amanda Saab (2008-09, Farmington) and Lauren Laquerre (2007-08, Concord) 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.