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**RAVENWOOD HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE® TENNESSEE VOLLEYBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (December 12, 2012) — In its 28<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Kathryn Hutson of Ravenwood High School as its 2012-13 Gatorade Tennessee Volleyball Player of the Year. Hutson is the third Gatorade Tennessee Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Ravenwood 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 Hutson as Tennessee's best high school volleyball player. Hutson 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-3 junior outside hitter led the Raptors to a 44-9 record and the Class AAA state title this past season. Hutson recorded 648 kills, 262 digs, 40 blocks and 31 service aces. A two-time All-State selection, she was MVP of the Class AAA state tournament for the second consecutive season.

Hutson has maintained a 3.73 GPA in the classroom. A member of Students Taking a Right Stand, she has volunteered locally on behalf of Ronald McDonald House Charities and youth volleyball programs.

"Hutson is just a dominant player," said Brittany Rhinehart, head coach at Centennial High. "You have to know where she is on the court, because they're going to push the ball to her, even in the back row. She's the type of player who makes you change the way you play."

Hutson will begin her senior year of high school next fall.

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.

Hutson joins recent Gatorade Tennessee Volleyball Players of the Year Alyssa Ivey (2011-12, Ravenwood High School), Madelyn Hutson (2010-11, Ravenwood High School), Megan Devine (2009-10, Dobyys-Bennett), Nicole Smith (2008-09, Dobyys-Bennett) and Hannah Shadrick (2007-08, Girls Preparatory School) 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](http://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com).

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