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**WINTER PARK HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® FLORIDA VOLLEYBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (December 12, 2013) — In its 29th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Christina Ambrose of Winter Park High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade Florida Volleyball Player of the Year. Ambrose is the second Gatorade Florida Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Winter Park 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 Ambrose as Florida's best high school volleyball player. Ambrose 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-4 senior outside hitter led the Wildcats to a 29-3 record and the Class 8A state championship this past season. The state's Miss Volleyball selection as named by the Florida Dairy Farmers Association, Ambrose amassed 451 kills, 442 service receptions, 220 digs, 44 service aces and 43 blocks. She recorded 28 kills, 14 digs and two service aces in the 3-1, title-clinching victory against Lake Mary.

Ambrose has maintained a 4.73 weighted GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally on behalf of her church, the Special Olympics, Second Harvest Food Bank and Patty's Parrot Place.

"Christina is a six-rotation dominant outside hitter," said Winter Park head coach Stephanie Gibson. "She is a physical presence that opponents must account for on defense and on offense. I am most impressed by Christina's performance in championship matches. She plays her best matches on the biggest stage."

Ambrose has signed a National Letter of Intent to play volleyball on scholarship at Purdue University 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.

Ambrose joins recent Gatorade Florida Volleyball Players of the Year Lindsey Owens (2012-2013, Bishop Moore High School), Jordan Burgess (2011-12 & 2010-11, Berkeley Preparatory School), Maddie Martin (2009-10, H.B. Plant), Jessica Yingling (2008-09, Timber Creek) 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 www.gatorade.com/poy.

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