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**BISHOP MIEGE HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® KANSAS 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 Kali Eaken of Bishop Miege High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade Kansas Volleyball Player of the Year. Eaken is the fourth Gatorade Kansas Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Bishop Miege 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 Eaken as Kansas's best high school volleyball player. Eaken 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-9 senior setter led the Stags to a 34-10 record and the Class 4A Division I state title this past season. Eaken recorded 1,128 assists, 281 digs, 168 kills, 43 blocks and 39 service aces while compiling a kill percentage of .540 and a hitting percentage of .470. A 2013-14 First Team Under Armour All-American as named by the American Volleyball Coaches Association, she is a three-time First Team All-State selection and is ranked No. 27 nationally in the Class of 2014 by PrepVolleyball.com.

Eaken has maintained a 3.25 GPA in the classroom. A member of her school's campus ministry group and Spirit Club, she has served as a student council representative and has volunteered locally as a peer tutor and a youth volleyball coach.

"Kali Eaken is a great athlete and a very competitive individual," said Bishop Miege head coach Gwenn Pike. "Her lethal, dominant left hand and great jumping ability offers a constant offensive threat to her opponents. Her relentless effort and endless practice sessions contributed to an aggressive and precise setting ability. Not only does Kali make incredible sets from both good and bad passes, she is an invaluable leader."

Eaken has signed a National Letter of Intent to play volleyball on an athletic scholarship at Kansas State 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.

Eaken joins recent Gatorade Kansas Volleyball Players of the Year Cassie Wait (2012-2013, Gardner-Edgerton High School), Paige Brown (2011-12, St. James Academy), Hanna Forst (2010-11, St. James Academy), Chelsea Cook (2009-10, Blue Valley North), Caitlyn Donahue (2008-09, Blue Valley West) and Kathleen Ludwig (2007-08, Bishop Miege) 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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