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DOVER HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® NEW HAMPSHIRE 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 Molly Wotton of Dover High School as its 2013-14 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 returning Gatorade State Player of the Year, the 6-foot senior outside hitter led the Green Wave to a 22-0 record and the Division I state title this past season. Wotton recorded 301 kills, 209 digs, 117 service aces and 10 blocks while posting a hitting percentage of .380 and a kill percentage of .571. A two-time Fosters Daily Democrat Player of the Year, Wotton is a three-time First Team All-State selection and was the 2012 Coaches Division I Player of the Year. She concluded her prep volleyball career with 853 kills and 264 service aces.

Wotton has maintained a B average in the classroom. A member of the Dover High Athletic Leadership Council, she has volunteered locally as a peer tutor, at her church nursery school and as a youth basketball coach.

"Molly Wotton couldn't be ignored," said Sarah Stank, head coach of Bedford High. "She led the division in aces and kills and was a leading serve-receiver and defensive player. Every team that faced Dover had specific plans to avoid serving the ball to her and formed defenses, offenses and complete lineups around her."

Wotton has signed a National Letter of Intent to play volleyball on an athletic scholarship at the University of New Hampshire beginning 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.

Two-time winner Wotton joins 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, Salem High School) 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 www.gatorade.com/poy.