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**SANDIA HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® NEW MEXICO 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 Amanda Carroll of Sandia High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade New Mexico Volleyball Player of the Year. Carroll is the second Gatorade New Mexico Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Sandia 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 Carroll as New Mexico's best high school volleyball player. Carroll 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 led the Matadors to a 21-1 record and the Class 5A state title this past season. Carroll recorded 343 kills, 221 digs, 108 blocks and 10 service aces while posting a hitting percentage of .363 and a kill percentage of .478. A two-time Albuquerque Journal First Team All-Metro selection, she is a three-time All-District 5-5A First Team pick.

Carroll has maintained a 3.66 GPA in the classroom. A member of Sandia High's Continentals singing group, she has volunteered locally with her school's Key Club and National Honor Society.

"Amanda Carroll is a dominant player and I can safely say that I doubt Sandia could have won without her," said Al Rosen, head coach of Gadsden High. "Her jumping ability and explosive attacking skills make her very difficult to defend."

Carroll will begin her senior year of high school 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.

Carroll joins recent Gatorade New Mexico Volleyball Players of the Year Julia Warren (2012-2013 & 2011-12, La Cueva High School), Nathalie Castellanos (2010-11, Gadsden High School), Halie Harton (2009-10, Goddard), Kristin Valencia (2008-09, Moriarty High School) and Kayla Hammond (2007-08, Rio Rancho) 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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