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**ROOSEVELT HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® SOUTH DAKOTA 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 Maggie DeJong of Roosevelt High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade South Dakota Volleyball Player of the Year. DeJong is the sixth Gatorade South Dakota Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Roosevelt 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 DeJong as South Dakota's best high school volleyball player. DeJong 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 middle blocker recorded 597 kills, 229 digs, 136 blocks and 26 service aces while posting a hitting percentage of .404 and a kill percentage of .509 this past season, leading the Rough Riders (27-9) to the Class AA state championship match. A three-time Class AA First Team All-State selection, she concluded her prep volleyball career with 1,262 kills, 693 digs and 374 blocks.

DeJong has maintained a 3.68 GPA in the classroom. A peer biology tutor at Roosevelt High, she has volunteered locally at a homeless shelter and food bank and helped make blankets for cancer patients.

"Maggie DeJong is hands down the most explosive and determined player in our state," said Ladawn Nesje, head coach of Washington High. Both offensively and defensively, it's Maggie DeJong all the way."

DeJong has signed a National Letter of Intent to play volleyball on an athletic scholarship at the University of Louisville 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.

Two-time winner DeJong joins Gatorade South Dakota Volleyball Players of the Year Erin Radke (2011-12, Lincoln High School), Wagner Larson (2010-11, Roosevelt High School), Marcelina Glab (2009-10, Watertown), Heather Goehring (2008-09, Roosevelt High School) and Amber Wollschlager (2007-08, Milbank) 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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