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**BRENTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® TENNESSEE 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 Hunter Thompson of Brentwood High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade Tennessee Volleyball Player of the Year. Thompson is the third Gatorade Tennessee Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Brentwood 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 Thompson as Tennessee's best high school volleyball player. Thompson 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-10 senior setter led the Bruins to a 58-4 record and the Class AAA state title this past season. Thompson recorded 1,334 assists, 206 digs, 147 kills and 65 service aces. An All-State performer and a three-time All-District selection, she has also been named a 2013-14 Honorable Mention Under Armour All-American.

Thompson has maintained a 4.10 GPA in the classroom. A devoted member of her church community, she has volunteered locally on behalf of Ronald McDonald House Charities, a food bank, the Make-a-Wish Foundation and youth volleyball programs.

"Thompson is the backbone of every team she's been on," said Ann Mullins, head coach at Ensworth School. "She's a good blocker, a good defender, a great volleyball IQ. She's tough to play against because she's always a step ahead of you. She's very important to everything they do."

Thompson has signed a National Letter of Intent to play volleyball on an athletic scholarship at Furman 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.

Thompson joins recent Gatorade Tennessee Volleyball Players of the Year Kathryn Hutson (2012-2013, Ravenwood High School), Alyssa Ivey (2011-12, Ravenwood High School), Madelyn Hutson (2010-11, Ravenwood High School), Megan Devine (2009-10, Dobyns-Bennett), Nicole Smith (2008-09, Page High School) and Hannah Shadrick (2007-08, Girls Preparatory School) 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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