

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Jason Belenke (312-729-3631)

**LANGLEY HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® VIRGINIA 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 Alex Andrejev of Langley High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade Virginia Volleyball Player of the Year. Andrejev is the first Gatorade Virginia Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Langley 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 Andrejev as Virginia's best high school volleyball player. Andrejev 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 and right-side hitter led the Saxons to a 27-3 record and the Group 6A state title this past season. Andrejev recorded 570 assists, 247 kills, 163 digs, 82 service aces and 53 blocks while posting a kill percentage of .465. The Group 6A Northern Region Player of the Year, Andrejev tallied 20 assists, seven kills and seven digs in Langley's 3-0 win over First Colonial High in the state-title match. She concluded her prep volleyball career with 2,044 assists, 794 kills, 621 digs and 265 service aces.

Andrejev has maintained a 3.82 GPA in the classroom. A two-time Langley High Academic Award winner, she has volunteered as a peer mentor, as a youth volleyball coach and on behalf of a fundraising campaign to benefit breast cancer research.

"Alex Andrejev has got great hands, she's a strong hitter, an effective server and is great at running the offense," said Edie Magula, head coach of First Colonial High. "Langley is not the best passing team in terms of serve receive, yet Alex practically erased that deficit with her setting ability."

Andrejev will attend Columbia University beginning in the fall of 2014, where she will play volleyball.

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.

Andrejev joins recent Gatorade Virginia Volleyball Players of the Year Hailey Brooks (2012-2013, Altee High School), Breanna Atkinson (2011-12, The Madeira School), Tori Janowski (2010-11, Flint Hill School), Juliane Hanna (2009-10, Loudoun County), Kristin Carpenter (2008-09, Hanover High School) and Alyssa Lang (2007-08, Deep Run) 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.

###