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**MOUNTAIN BROOK HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® ALABAMA VOLLEYBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (December 11, 2014) — In its 30th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Sara Carr of Mountain Brook High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade Alabama Volleyball Player of the Year. Carr is the first Gatorade Alabama Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Mountain Brook 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 Carr as Alabama's best high school volleyball player. Carr 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 Spartans to a 49-10 record and the Class 7A state championship this past season. Carr slammed 648 kills while recording a .441 kill percentage and .340 hitting percentage. A returning First Team All-State selection as named by the Alabama Volleyball Coaches Association, she also amassed 513 digs, 81 service aces and 48 blocks this past fall. In the 3-1, title-clinching victory against Hoover, Carr collected match highs of 16 kills, 14 digs and three blocks, capturing Class 7A state tournament Most Valuable Player honors.

Also a basketball standout, Carr has maintained a 4.21 weighted GPA in the classroom and serves as junior class secretary. A member of the Spanish Honor Society and Future Business Leaders of America as well as her school's Spanish, Outreach and National Beta clubs, she has donated her time as a youth volleyball instructor. Carr has also volunteered locally on behalf of her church, a youth literacy-outreach program, a food pantry ministry and the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life.

"She's just a solid all-around player, but the No. 1 thing that stands out about her is that she's a natural leader," said Birmingham Volleyball Club director Tien Le, for whom Carr plays in the summer. "She's one of those players who you love watching play—the way she plays, the way she celebrates, the way she interacts with her team."

Carr will begin her senior year of high school in the fall of 2015.

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.

Carr joins recent Gatorade Alabama Volleyball Players of the Year Leah Lawrence (2013-14, Covenant Christian Academy), Virginia Pittman (2012-13, Bayside Academy), Cati Leak (2011-12 & 2010-11, Guntersville High School), Chelsea Wintzinger (2009-10, Huntsville), Catherine Rebarchak (2008-09, St. Paul's Episcopal School) and MacKenzie Wilson (2007-08, Grissom) 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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