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**MERRIMACK HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE® NEW HAMPSHIRE VOLLEYBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (December 11, 2014) — In its 30<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Jen Coffey of Merrimack High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade New Hampshire Volleyball Player of the Year. Coffey is the first Gatorade New Hampshire Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Merrimack 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 Coffey as New Hampshire's best high school volleyball player. Coffey 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 6-foot-1 senior outside hitter led the Tomahawks to a 22-0 record and the Division I state title this past season. Coffey tallied 366 kills, 244 digs, 43 blocks and 39 service aces while posting a hitting percentage of .494 and a kill percentage of .580. The New Hampshire Volleyball Coaches Association's 2014 Division I Player of the Year, Coffey is a two-time First Team All-State selection. She concluded her prep volleyball career with 950 kills and 708 digs.

Coffey has maintained a 3.57 GPA in the classroom. A four-year member of the Merrimack High student council, she has volunteered locally with the Special Olympics, as an elementary school aide and as part of multiple community service initiatives in association with her church.

"When Jen Coffey was on a roll she was unstoppable," said Joe Walz, head coach of Alvirne High. "She knew how to maneuver the ball to get it past the block. Physically and mentally, she is a great player."

Coffey has signed a National Letter of Intent to play volleyball on a scholarship at Quinnipiac University in Connecticut 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.

Coffey joins recent Gatorade New Hampshire Volleyball Players of the Year Molly Wotton (2013-14 & 2012-13, Dover High School), Kelsey Berry (2011-12, Hollis Brookline High School), Katie Schwarz (2010-11, Londonderry High School), Maria Kuehl (2009-10, Farmington), Amanda Saab (2008-09, Salem) and Lauren Laquerre (2007-08, Concord) 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](http://www.gatorade.com/poy).

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