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**IMMACULATE HEART ACADEMY STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® NEW JERSEY 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 Caitlyn Floyd of Immaculate Heart Academy as its 2014-15 Gatorade New Jersey Volleyball Player of the Year. Floyd is the third Gatorade New Jersey Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Immaculate Heart Academy.

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 Floyd as New Jersey's best high school volleyball player. Floyd 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-7 junior setter led the Blue Eagles to a 41-1 record, an eighth straight Non-Public state title and a fourth straight Tournament of Champions title this past season. Floyd amassed 956 assists, 151 digs, 86 service aces and 64 kills while posting a .626 hitting percentage. A 2013 PrepVolleyball.com Honorable Mention All-American, Floyd is a three-time First Team All-Big North United selection. She concluded her junior year with 3,015 assists in her prep volleyball career.

Floyd has maintained a 3.91 GPA in the classroom. A photographer for the school yearbook, she has volunteered locally with the Christian Actions Reaching Everyone (CARE) service club in addition to serving as a peer tutor and youth volleyball coach.

"Immaculate Heart is the No. 1 ranked team in New Jersey and Caitlyn Floyd has been the driving force that has kept them at that spot," said Sheila Rivera, head coach of Secaucus High. "They were plagued with many injuries this year, but when playing them, you couldn't tell. Caitlyn was the reason they were able to so smoothly face these challenges."

Floyd will begin her senior year of high school next fall.

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.

Floyd joins recent Gatorade New Jersey Volleyball Players of the Year Nia Reed (2013-14, 2012-13 & 2011-12, Immaculate Heart Academy), Aiyana Whitney (2010-11, Northern Valley Regional High School at Old Tappan), Ariel Scott (2009-10 & 2008-09, Immaculate Heart Academy) and Amanda Alles (2007-08, Hunterdon Central) 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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