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**O'GORMAN HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® SOUTH DAKOTA 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 Taryn Kloth of O'Gorman High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade South Dakota Volleyball Player of the Year. Kloth is the second Gatorade South Dakota Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from O'Gorman 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 Kloth as South Dakota's best high school volleyball player. Kloth 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-4 senior outside hitter led the Knights to a 33-5 record and a second straight Class AA state title this past season. Kloth tallied 558 kills, 314 digs, 90 blocks and 41 service aces, while posting a .418 hitting percentage and a .500 kill percentage. A 2013 PrepVolleyball.com All-American selection and a three-time Class AA First Team All-State honoree, Kloth is ranked as the No. 18 recruit in the Class of 2015 by PrepVolleyball. She concluded her prep career with 1,137 kills and 744 digs.

Kloth has maintained a 3.98 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally at Children's Care Hospital and School in Sioux Falls in addition to donating her time as a youth volleyball coach.

"We dreaded playing against Taryn Kloth because she was a weapon from all angles," said Emily Palmer, head coach of Lincoln High. "She is probably the best all-around player South Dakota has seen in the past few years."

Kloth has signed a National Letter of Intent to play volleyball on a scholarship at Creighton University 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.

Kloth joins recent Gatorade South Dakota Volleyball Players of the Year Maggie DeJong (2013-14 & 2012-13, Roosevelt High School), Erin Radke (2011-12, Lincoln High School), Wagner Larson (2010-11, Roosevelt High School), Marcelina Glab (2009-10, Watertown), Heather Goehring (2008-09, Roosevelt) and Amber Wollschlager (2007-08, Milbank) 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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