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**FLINT HILL SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE® VIRGINIA 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 Ally Ford of Flint Hill School as its 2014-15 Gatorade Virginia Volleyball Player of the Year. Ford is the second Gatorade Virginia Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Flint Hill 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 Ford as Virginia's best high school volleyball player. Ford 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 outside hitter led the Huskies to a 34-0 record and a third straight Virginia Independent School Athletic Association Division I state title this past season. Ford tallied 352 kills, 256 digs, 113 service aces and 15 blocks while posting a .341 hitting percentage and a .504 kill percentage. A two-time VISAA State Player of the Year, Ford was a three-time First Team All-State selection and a 2013 Washington Post First Team All-Met honoree. She concluded her prep volleyball career with 1,104 kills, 1,033 digs and 328 service aces.

Ford has maintained a 3.0 GPA in the classroom. An avid photographer, she has volunteered locally with her school's Knitting for Needs Club in addition to donating her time as a youth volleyball coach.

"Ally Ford has a great all-around game," said Shawn Martz, head coach of Musselman (W.Va.) High. "I love her energy and leadership on the court."

Ford has signed a National Letter of Intent to play volleyball on a scholarship at the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga 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.

Ford joins recent Gatorade Virginia Volleyball Players of the Year Alex Andrejev (2013-14, Langley High School), Hailey Brooks (2012-13, 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) 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](http://www.gatorade.com/poy).

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