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Contact: Jason Belenke (312-729-3631)

**AUBURN RIVERSIDE HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® WASHINGTON 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 Carson Heilborn of Auburn Riverside High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade Washington Volleyball Player of the Year. Heilborn is the first Gatorade Washington Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Auburn Riverside 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 Heilborn as Washington's best high school volleyball player. Heilborn 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 senior setter led the Ravens to a 35-0 record and the Class 3A state title this past season. Heilborn tallied 843 assists, 177 kills, 105 digs, 54 blocks and 47 service aces while posting a .436 hitting percentage. The 2014 South Puget Sound League Class 3A MVP, Heilborn notched 35 assists, seven kills and six digs in a 3-0 win over Capital in the state title match. She concluded her prep volleyball career with 1,851 assists and 457 kills.

Heilborn has maintained a 3.85 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally as a mentor to incoming students at Auburn Riverside and has donated her time with multiple elementary school stage productions as a set designer and crewmember.

"Carson Heilborn is very difficult for opposing blockers to read and is very dangerous on the court because of her many abilities," said Marcene Sullivan, head coach of Seattle Prep. "She had a huge impact on the Ravens' success. She can do it all."

Heilborn has signed a National Letter of Intent to play volleyball on a scholarship at the University of New Mexico 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.

Heilborn joins recent Gatorade Washington Volleyball Players of the Year Courtney Schwan (2013-14 & 2012-13, Bellarmine Preparatory School), Katlyn Mataya (2011-12, Burlington-Edison High School), Rachel Roeder (2010-11, Issaquah High School), Alexis Olgard (2009-10, Mead), Kylin Munoz (2008-09, Monroe) and Brittany Quick (2007-08, Hanford) 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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