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**ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA VOLLEYBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (December 8, 2015) — In its 31st year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Jeanne Westney of St. John's College High School as its 2015-16 Gatorade District of Columbia Volleyball Player of the Year. Westney is the fifth Gatorade District of Columbia Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from St. John's College 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 Westney as District of Columbia's best high school volleyball player. Westney 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-3 senior middle blocker and outside hitter led the Cadets to a 21-13 record and the District of Columbia State Athletic Association championship this past season. The DCSAA Tournament MVP and a First Team All-Washington Catholic Athletic Conference selection, Westney slammed 429 kills with 273 digs and 91 service aces in her final prep campaign.

Westney has maintained a 3.62 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally on behalf of the National Fragile X Foundation and is a member of her school's Cadets for a Cure campaign to benefit cancer research.

"Jeanne Westney is a tireless worker," said St. John's head coach Bill Pribac. "She is one of the first in the gym and the last to leave and she constantly works on improving all her skills. Her free spirit is a great influence on the team and she exemplifies how a captain should lead both on and off the court."

Westney has signed a National Letter of Intent to play volleyball on scholarship at the University of Central Florida in the fall of 2016.

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.

Westney joins recent Gatorade District of Columbia Volleyball Players of the Year Evelyn Gray (2014-15, Maret School), Becca Bateman (2013-14 & 2012-13, St. John's College High School), Darian Dozier (2011-12, St. John's College High School), Isabel Eberstadt (2010-11, National Cathedral School), Jessie Egan (2009-10, Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School), Carolyn Bottelier (2008-09, Maret School) and Kelley Vershbow (2007-08, Maret School) 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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