

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact: Jason Belenke (312-729-3631)**

**ACADEMY OF THE HOLY CROSS STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE® MARYLAND VOLLEYBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (December 8, 2015) — In its 31<sup>st</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Megan McTigue of Academy of the Holy Cross as its 2015-16 Gatorade Maryland Volleyball Player of the Year. McTigue is the first Gatorade Maryland Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Academy of the Holy Cross.

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 McTigue as Maryland's best high school volleyball player. McTigue 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-1 senior outside hitter led the Tartans to an 33-5 record and the Washington Catholic Athletic Conference championship this past season. McTigue slammed 377 kills while recording a .415 kill percentage and .305 hitting percentage. The 2015 WCAC Player of the Year amassed 333 service receptions, 214 digs, 83 service aces, 30 blocks and 20 assists. In a 3-1, title-clinching win over Our Lady of Good Counsel, she collected 19 kills, 18 service receptions, seven digs, three service aces and three blocks.

McTigue has maintained a 4.06 weighted GPA in the classroom and served as a member of her school's student ambassador program. A member of the National Honor Society and Spanish National Honor Society, she has volunteered on behalf of an after-school program, a Vacation Bible School, Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church's Sunday suppers for the homeless and the Byron House for the Elderly.

"In addition to being the most skilled player on the Holy Cross team, Megan did an outstanding job as co-captain this year," said Tartans head coach Dave Geiser. "We lost nine of our 15 players from our 2014 WCAC championship team. She led a varsity team with three seniors, seven juniors—six of whom came up from JV—a sophomore and three freshmen. Megan's on-court and off-court leadership and high level of emotional intelligence ensured that this essentially brand new team could rally to win the WCAC."

McTigue has signed a National Letter of Intent to play volleyball on scholarship at the University of Maryland 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.

McTigue joins recent Gatorade Maryland Volleyball Players of the Year Liz Twilley (2014-15, Oakdale High School), Sydney Biniak (2013-14, Howard High School), Alex Holston (2012-13 & 2011-12, Sherwood High School), Megan Rosburg (2010-11, River Hill High School), Katy Buck (2009-10, Mount de Sales Academy) and Bailey Webster (2008-09 & 2007-08, St. Paul's School for Girls) 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).

###