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## NOTRE DAME ACADEMY STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® MASSACHUSETTS 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 Corinne Cox of Notre Dame Academy as its 2015-16 Gatorade Massachusetts Volleyball Player of the Year. Cox is the second Gatorade Massachusetts Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Notre Dame Academy.

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 Cox as Massachusetts's best high school volleyball player. Cox 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 state's returning Gatorade Player of the Year, the 6-foot-1 senior setter led the Cougars to a 22-1 record and the Division 2 state championship this past season. Cox tallied 771 assists, 124 digs, 71 kills, 52 service aces and 42 blocks. A two-time Boston Globe All-Scholastic selection, Cox is a three-time Division 2 First Team All-State honoree. She concluded her prep volleyball career with 2,288 assists.

Cox has maintained a weighted 4.17 GPA in the classroom. The editor of the school newspaper, she has volunteered at South Shore Hospital and has donated her time helping senior citizens understand technology in association with the Teens Teaching Technology initiative.

"Corinne is unbelievable," said Rachel Lassey, head coach of Dartmouth High. "She can turn any bad pass into a ball her teammates can full-out swing at. She has a great serve, is strong defensively and is a big block."

Cox will attend Dartmouth College in the fall of 2016, where she will play volleyball.

The <u>Gatorade Player of the Year</u> 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 <u>USA TODAY High School Sports</u>, 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.

Two-time winner Cox joins Gatorade Massachusetts Volleyball Players of the Julia Flynn (2013-14, Notre Dame Academy), Cassidy Stankowski (2012-13 & 2011-12, Frontier Regional School), Maura Manley (2010-11, New Bedford High School), Morgan Thatcher (2009-10, Brockton High School), Caitlin Barrett (2008-09, Medfield High School) and Mina Baban (2007-08, Westborough High 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 <u>www.gatorade.com/poy</u>.