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**LA CUEVA HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® NEW MEXICO 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 Abby Stomp of La Cueva High School as its 2015-16 Gatorade New Mexico Volleyball Player of the Year. Stomp is the second Gatorade New Mexico Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from La Cueva 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 Stomp as New Mexico's best high school volleyball player. Stomp 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-9 senior setter led the Bears to a 22-0 record and the Class 6A state championship this past season. Stomp tallied 727 assists, 198 digs, 154 blocks, 99 kills and 86 service aces while posting a kill percentage of .513 and a hitting percentage of .487. The NMPreps.com Player of the Year, she concluded her prep volleyball career with 1,745 assists.

Stomp has maintained a weighted 4.09 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally as part of multiple fund-a-cure fundraising campaigns for breast cancer, Down syndrome and autism. In addition, she has donated her time to an elementary school literacy-outreach program and as a youth volleyball coach.

"Abby is an incredibly smart player and can read her opponents well, which keeps them off-balance," said Lissa Warren, head coach of Eldorado High. "She is the main reason for her team's success."

Stomp has signed a National Letter of Intent to play volleyball on scholarship at Northern Arizona University 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.

Stomp joins recent Gatorade New Mexico Volleyball Players of the Year Amanda Carroll (2014-15 & 2013-14, Sandia High School), Julia Warren (2012-13 & 2011-12, La Cueva High School), Nathalie Castellanos (2010-11, Gadsden High School), Halie Harton (2009-10, Goddard High School), Kristin Valencia (2008-09, Moriarty High School) and Kayla Hammond (2007-08, Rio Rancho 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 www.gatorade.com/poy.

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