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**SOUTH IREDELL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® NORTH CAROLINA 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 Julia Scoles of South Iredell High School as its 2015-16 Gatorade North Carolina Volleyball Player of the Year. Scoles is the first Gatorade North Carolina Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from South Iredell 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 Scoles as North Carolina's best high school volleyball player. Scoles 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 Vikings to a 27-1 record and Class 3A state title this past season. Scoles recorded 283 digs, 231 kills and 122 service aces while posting a kill percentage of .441. A 2015 Under Armour First Team All-American as named by the American Volleyball Coaches Association, she is the nation's No. 6 ranked recruit as rated by PrepVolleyball.com.

Scoles has maintained a 3.73 weighted GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally on behalf of her community's recreation department and as a youth volleyball coach.

"Julia Scoles is the best player I have ever been privileged to coach against," Jason Stephens, head coach at Hickory High. "She is the type of player that changes the game. You have to build your game plan around beating South Iredell beginning with her."

Scoles has signed a National Letter of Intent to play volleyball on scholarship at the University of North Carolina 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.

Scoles joins recent Gatorade North Carolina Volleyball Players of the Year Katharine Franz (2014-15, Charlotte Country Day School), Darian Mack (2013-14, Wakefield High School), Eve Davis (2012-13, Charlotte Latin School), Madison Bugg (2011-12 & 2009-10, Cardinal Gibbons High School), Kristen Harris (2010-11, Apex High School), Andrea Beck (2008-09, Mt. Tabor High School) and Katie Kabbes (2007-08, Cardinal Gibbons 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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