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**FATHER RYAN HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® TENNESSEE 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 Lauren Dorrell of Father Ryan High School as its 2015-16 Gatorade Tennessee Volleyball Player of the Year. Dorrell is the first Gatorade Tennessee Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Father Ryan 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 Dorrell as Tennessee's best high school volleyball player. Dorrell 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 senior outside hitter led the Irish to a 40-10 record and the Division II-AA state championship this past season. Dorrell recorded 466 kills, 314 digs and 46 blocks. A 2015-16 Under Armour Second Team All-American, she was also named MVP of the Div. II-AA state tournament.

Dorrell has maintained a 3.84 GPA in the classroom. A devoted member of her church community, she has volunteered locally on behalf of a soup kitchen and the Special Olympics.

"Dorrell is a very strong hitter and a great player all the way around," said Becky Pendleton, head coach at Houston High. "She's very consistent and makes very few errors. When the pressure was on, she really got it done."

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

Dorrell joins recent Gatorade Tennessee Volleyball Players of the Year Gabby Gray (2014-15, Baylor School), Hunter Thompson (2013-14, Brentwood High School), Kathryn Hutson (2012-13, Ravenwood High School), Alyssa Ivey (2011-12, Ravenwood High School), Madelyn Hutson (2010-11, Ravenwood High School), Megan Devine (2009-10, Dobyns-Bennett High School), Nicole Smith (2008-09, Page High School) and Hannah Shadrick (2007-08, Girls Preparatory 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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