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## EAST TROY HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® WISCONSIN 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 M.E. Dodge of East Troy High School as its 2015-16 Gatorade Wisconsin Volleyball Player of the Year. Dodge is the first Gatorade Wisconsin Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from East Troy 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 Dodge as Wisconsin's best high school volleyball player. Dodge 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-11 senior outside hitter recorded 670 kills, 428 digs and 43 service aces while posting a kill percentage of .486 and leading the Trojans (32-10) to the Division 2 state final this past season. A three-time First Team All-State selection, Dodge was named the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel's All-Area Player of the Year.

Dodge has maintained a 3.50 GPA in the classroom. A member of the National Honor Society and the Future Business Leaders of America, she has volunteered locally on behalf of a nursing home and animal shelter in addition to donating her time as a youth volleyball coach.

"M.E. Dodge is hands down the most complete player that I have coached against in many, many years," said Charlie Berg, head coach at Westosha Central High. "She can do it all. She plays with a certain flair and smooth flow in her game. She is also a fine classy young lady with no arrogance in her. She is respectful to her coaches, teammates and everyone who has any connection with her."

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

Dodge joins recent Gatorade Wisconsin Volleyball Players of the Year Carly Townsend (2014-15, Germantown High School), Simone Lee (2013-14, Menomonee Falls High School), Kaysie Shebeneck (2012-13 & 2011-12, Burlington High School), Crystal Graff (2010-11 & 2009-10, La Follette High School), Carol Henney (2008-09, Catholic Central High School) and Janelle Gabrielsen (2007-08, Menomonee Falls 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 <a href="https://www.gatorade.com/poy">www.gatorade.com/poy</a>.