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POST FALLS HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® IDAHO GIRLS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (March 14, 2013) — In its 28th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Dani Failor of Post Falls High School as its 2012-13 Gatorade Idaho Girls Basketball Player of the Year. Failor is the second Gatorade Idaho Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Post Falls 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 court, distinguishes Failor as Idaho's best high school girls basketball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Girls Basketball Player of the Year award announced in March, Failor joins an elite alumni association of past state girls basketball award-winners, including Candace Parker (2001-02, Naperville Central HS, Ill.), Diana Taurasi (1998-99 & 1999-00, Don Antonio Lugo HS, Calif.), Maya Moore (2005-06 Collins Hill HS, Ga.), Rashanda McCants (2004-05, Asheville HS, N.C.), Shyra Ely (1999-00, Ben Davis HS, Ind.) and Lisa Leslie (1988-89, Morningside HS, Calif.).

The 6-foot senior forward led the Trojans to a 24-1 record and the Class 5A state title this past season. Failor averaged 12.2 points and 8.1 rebounds per game and shot 52 percent from the floor. A two-time First Team All-State selection, Failor recorded double-doubles in the final two games of the state tournament, including an 11-point, 11-rebound effort over Coeur d'Alene in the state title-clinching victory.

Failor has maintained a 3.86 GPA in the classroom. An accomplished pianist, she is a member of the National Honor Society and her school's student council, and has volunteered locally on behalf of the Kootenai Medical Center.

"Dani Failor is not only dedicated to the sports she plays, she is also an excellent student who does as much as she can to help the community," said Bryan Kelly, head coach at Lake City High. "Her dedication to sports and bettering society is something that doesn't come around very often."

Failor will attend the United States Military Academy at West Point this fall, where she will play basketball.

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.

Failor joins recent Gatorade Idaho Girls Basketball Players of the Year Tisha Phillips (2011-12, Lewiston High School), Jackie Luna-Castro (2010-11, Boise High School), Katelyn Loper (2009-10, Post Falls), and Katie Baker (2008-09, 2007-08 & 2006-07, Lake City) 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.