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CATHERINE MCAULEY HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® MAINE 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 Allie Clement of Catherine McAuley High School as its 2012-13 Gatorade Maine Girls Basketball Player of the Year. Clement is the third Gatorade Maine Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Catherine McAuley 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 Clement as Maine'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, Clement 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 5-foot-8 junior point guard led the Lions to a 23-0 record and their third straight Class A state title this past season. Clement averaged 18.1 points, 4.6 rebounds, 2.9 steals and 2.5 assists while shooting at 56 percent from inside the arc. The 2013 Edward "Red" McMann Award winner as the outstanding player of the state tournament, Clement scored 13 points in a 60-45 win over Bangor in the state final.

Clement has maintained a 94.7 average in the classroom. She has volunteered locally as an elementary school library assistant and on behalf of the Falmouth Food Pantry. She has also donated her time helping to collect sneakers for underprivileged children.

"Allie Clement has an extremely high basketball IQ and she always seems to make the right play," said Laughn Berthiaume, head coach at Gorham High. "Whenever they needed a big basket, she was able to deliver. She is a high energy player who was always able to control the tempo of the game."

Clement will begin her senior year of high school this fall.

The <u>Gatorade Player of the Year</u> 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 <u>USA TODAY High School Sports</u>, 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.

Clement joins recent Gatorade Maine Girls Basketball Players of the Year Meghan Gribbin (2011-12, Windham High School), Niki Taylor (2010-11, York High School), Nicole Taylor (2009-10, York), Morgan Frame (2008-09, Waterville), Rachael Mack (2007-08, Cony), and Ashley Cimino (2006-07, McAuley) 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 <u>www.gatorade.com/poy</u>.