

Contact: Matt Schiffman (312-729-3672)

**PROVIDENCE DAY SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® NORTH CAROLINA 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 Jatarie White of Providence Day School as its 2012-13 Gatorade North Carolina Girls Basketball Player of the Year. White is the second Gatorade North Carolina Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Providence Day 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 White as North Carolina'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, White 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-3 junior forward led the Chargers to a 27-4 record and their eighth North Carolina Independent Schools Athletic Association Class 3A state championship in nine seasons. A three-time NCISAA Class 3A All-State selection, White averaged 19.0 points, 10.6 rebounds, 3.2 blocks and 1.8 steals per game. White recorded 24 points, 12 rebounds and two blocks in a 44-28, title-clinching victory against Georgia's Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School. She participated in the 2012 USA Basketball Women's U17 World Championship Team Trials this past summer.

White has maintained a B average in the classroom. An active member of her school's Cultural Alliance Club, she has volunteered locally at a retirement facility and Charlotte's Second Harvest Food Bank.

"Jatarie is the reason her team has won so many games," said Deb Savino, head coach of rival Charlotte Latin School. "When it was close, she would make the difference in the game to pull out the win. Her presence in the paint offensively and defensively is unmatched in the state."

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

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.

White joins recent Gatorade North Carolina Girls Basketball Players of the Year Tiffany Mitchell (2011-12, Providence Day School), Cierra Burdick (2010-11 & 2009-10, Butler High School), Asia Williams (2008-09, Hillside), Candace Wood (2007-08, Victory Christian Center School), and Cetera DeGraffenreid (2006-07, Smoky Mountain) 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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