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CHAMBERSBURG AREA SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE PENNSYLVANIA GIRLS TRACK & FIELD ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 19, 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 Marshay Ryan of Chambersburg Area Senior High School as its 2012-13 Gatorade Pennsylvania Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Ryan is the first Gatorade Pennsylvania Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Chambersburg Area Senior 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 track, distinguishes Ryan as Pennsylvania's best high school girls track & field athlete. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year award to be announced in June, Ryan joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Allyson Felix (2001-02, Los Angeles Baptist, Calif.), Derek Jeter (1991-92, Kalamazoo HS, Mich.), Candace Parker (2001-02, Naperville Central HS, Ill.), Abby Wambach (1997-98, Our Lady of Mercy, N.Y.), Mark Sanchez (2004-05, Mission Viejo HS, Calif.), Lolo Jones (1997-98, Roosevelt HS, Ia.) and Bianca Knight (2006-07, Ridgeland HS, Miss.).

The 5-foot-6 senior won the long jump with a leap of 19 feet, 10 inches, and the triple jump with an effort of 41-1.25 at the Class AAA state championship meet this spring. Ryan also won the indoor state titles in the long jump and triple jump and was named the Athlete of the Year by the Pennsylvania Track and Field Coaches Association.

Ryan has maintained a 3.59 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally on behalf of her church's Sunday School program.

"Marshay is a student of the sport and her work ethic is second to none," said Chambersburg jump coach Bob Walker.
"Chambersburg High School may never see another athlete quite like her."

Ryan has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete in track and field on scholarship at Auburn University 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.

Ryan joins recent Gatorade Pennsylvania Girls Track & Field Athletes of the Year Angel Piccirillo (2011-12, Homer-Center High School), Leah Nugent (2010-11, Abington Senior High School), Shelley Black (2009-10, Coughlin), Fawn Miller (2008-09, Lakeview), Chanelle Price (2007-08, Easton Area), and Ryann Krais (2006-2007, Methacton) 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.