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**NATIONAL CATHEDRAL SCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE® DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA GIRLS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (March 13, 2014) — In its 29<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Marta Sniezek of National Cathedral School as its 2013-14 Gatorade District of Columbia Girls Basketball Player of the Year. Sniezek is the first Gatorade District of Columbia Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from National Cathedral 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 Sniezek as District of Columbia'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, Sniezek 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-6 junior point guard averaged 30.6 points, 8.5 rebounds, 6.7 assists and 6.6 steals while shooting at 78 percent from the free throw line this past season, leading the Eagles (17-5) to the D.C. State Athletic Association semifinals. A three-time First Team All-Independent School League selection, she averaged 27.3 points per game in the DCSAA tournament.

Sniezek has maintained a 3.05 GPA in the classroom. A member of the National Honor Society, she has volunteered locally on behalf of the Haiti Relief Fund, Jill's House offering services to children with special needs, and So Others May Eat, delivering food and medical supplies to families in need in the greater D.C. area.

"I can't say enough about Marta Sniezek as a player and a game-changer," said Bobby Asher, head coach at Georgetown Day. "When we played them most recently in a close game, she was our absolute focus. We left other girls wide open, double teaming Sniezek every time she touched it. Still, we couldn't really stop her. Defensively, she absolutely changes the game. I've never seen more of a one-man wrecking crew. Every time I watch her, she makes a couple of plays that I can only marvel at."

Sniezek 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.

Sniezek joins recent Gatorade District of Columbia Girls Basketball Players of the Year Lindsay Allen (2012-13, St. John's College High School), Katie Gillespie (2011-12, Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School), Mooriah Rowser (2010-11, St. John's College High School), Nicola Zimmer (2009-10, St. John's College), Taylor Hilton (2008-09, Sidwell Friends School), Patrice Johnson (2007-08, HD Woodson), and Khadijah Rushdan (2006 - 07, St. Elizabeth) 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](http://www.gatorade.com/poy).

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