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**SKYVIEW HIGH SCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® IDAHO GIRLS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (March 13, 2014) — In its 29th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Leah Bonner of Skyview High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade Idaho Girls Basketball Player of the Year. Bonner is the first Gatorade Idaho Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Skyview 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 Bonner 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, Bonner 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 Hawks to a 26-2 record and their first-ever Class 4A state title this past season. Bonner averaged 18.2 points, 9.7 rebounds, 3.2 steals, three assists and 2.5 blocks while shooting 57.5 percent from inside the arc. A two-time First Team All-State selection, Bonner scored 27 points to go with 19 rebounds and six assists in Skyview's 69-55 win over Twin Falls in the state final.

Bonner has maintained a 3.12 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally on behalf of the American Red Cross, as a peer tutor and as a youth basketball coach.

"Hands down, Leah Bonner is the best player in the state of Idaho," said Nancy Jones, head coach at Twin Falls High. "She is a shot-blocker, an excellent rebounder and can score inside and out. She makes teams change their strategy to defend her."

Bonner has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on scholarship at the University of Alaska Anchorage 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.

Bonner joins recent Gatorade Idaho Girls Basketball Players of the Year Dani Failor (2012-13, Post Falls High School), Tisha Phillips (2011-12, Lewiston High School), Jackie Luna-Castro (2010-11, Boise High School), Katelyn Loper (2009-10, Post Falls), Katie Baker (2008-09, Lake City), and Katie Baker (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.

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