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## WAMEGO HIGH SCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® KANSAS 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 Kaylee Page of Wamego High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade Kansas Girls Basketball Player of the Year. Page is the first Gatorade Kansas Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Wamego 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 Page as Kansas'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, Page 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-2 senior guard led the Red Raiders to a 22-0 record and the No. 1 seed in the Class 4A, Division I state tournament, scheduled to begin March 12. A returning Class 4A First Team All-State selection as named by the Kansas Basketball Coaches Association, Page averaged 15.9 points, 6.9 rebounds, 3.6 assists and 3.0 blocks through 22 games. She led Wamego to the 2013 Class 4A state championship as a junior.

Page has maintained a 4.14 weighted GPA in the classroom. In addition to donating her time as a youth basketball instructor, she has volunteered making meals and cleaning houses for the elderly.

"She is the highest-skilled basketball player I have coached against," said Janelle Geist, head coach of rival Abilene High. "She makes moves on the basketball court that most high school boys' basketball players can't—like a step-back 3-point shot, for example. She has phenomenal range with her shot. Her ball-handling and passing skills are excellent. She has great knowledge of the game."

Page has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on scholarship at the University of Nebraska 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.

Page joins recent Gatorade Kansas Girls Basketball Players of the Year Katelyn Loecker (2012-13 & 2011-12, McPherson High School), Natalie Knight (2010-11, Olathe South High School), Tiffany Bias (2009-10, Andover Central), Taber Spani (2008-09, Metro Academy), Kendra Frazier (2007-08, Labette County), and Morgan Boyd (2006 - 07, Olathe East) 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 <a href="www.gatorade.com/poy">www.gatorade.com/poy</a>.