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RENO HIGH SCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® NEVADA 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 Mallory McGwire of Reno High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade Nevada Girls Basketball Player of the Year. McGwire is the third Gatorade Nevada Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Reno 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 McGwire as Nevada'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, McGwire joins an elite alumni association of past state girls basketball awardwinners, 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-4 sophomore center led the Huskies to a 30-1 record and the Division I state title this past season. McGwire averaged 15.5 points, 11.7 rebounds, 3.9 blocks and 2.5 assists while shooting 62 percent from inside the arc. A First Team All-State selection, she recorded 23 double-doubles this season and led her team in points-scored, rebounds and blocked shots.

McGwire has maintained a 3.15 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally on behalf of an area homeless shelter, as a youth basketball coach and as a role-model guest speaker at an elementary school.

"Mallory McGwire is the most dominant post player in the state," said Art Cardenas, head coach at Spanish Springs.

"She has good footwork, good hands and knows how to seal and get good post position. She would make any team that you put her on a lot better. She was the best player on the best team in the state."

McGwire will begin her junior 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.

McGwire joins recent Gatorade Nevada Girls Basketball Players of the Year Sarita Jo Condie (2012-13, Pershing County High School), Jada Brown (2011-12, Centennial High School), Amanda Delgado (2010-11, Liberty High School), Alexis Byrd (2009-10, Centennial), Mia Bell (2008-09, Durango), Ashley Gayle (2007-08, Bishop Gorman), and Italee Lucas (2006 - 07, Centennial) 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.