

Contact: Lauren Rollins (312-729-3607)

**PROVIDENCE DAY SCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® NORTH CAROLINA 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 Jatarie White of Providence Day School as its 2013-14 Gatorade North Carolina Girls Basketball Player of the Year. White is the fourth Gatorade North Carolina Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Providence Day 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 White as North Carolina'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, White 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 state's returning Gatorade Girls Basketball Player of the Year, White led the Chargers to a 27-3 record and their ninth North Carolina Independent Schools Athletic Association Class 3A state championship in 10 seasons. A McDonald's High School All-American Game selection and a WBCA All-American, the 6-foot-4 senior forward and post averaged 21.4 points, 8.7 rebounds, 2.1 blocks and 1.7 steals per game. She tallied 14 points, 10 rebounds, five assists, two steals and a block in the 45-20, title-clinching victory against Greensboro Day, capturing her fourth state championship in as many seasons.

White has maintained a B average in the classroom. An active member of her school's Cultural Alliance Club, she has volunteered locally on behalf of Ronald McDonald House Charities, Samaritan's Feet and the Kay Yow Cancer Fund. White has also donated her time as a youth basketball instructor.

"Once again, Jatarie has been asked to shoulder the load on both ends of the floor," said Providence Day head coach Josh Springer. "She has improved her game from last year by being a versatile ball-handler for us and scoring consistently from the perimeter as well as at the rim. On the defensive end, she continues to alter and block opponents' shots at will, thus anchoring our defensive attack. Her senior leadership has been paramount for a team whose roster is 60 percent freshmen and sophomores."

White has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on scholarship at the University of South Carolina 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.

Two time winner White joins Gatorade North Carolina Girls Basketball Players of the Year Tiffany Mitchell (2011-12, Providence Day School), Cierra Burdick (2010-11 & 2009-10, Butler High School), Asia Williams (2008-09, Hillside), Candace Wood (2007-08, Victory Christian Center School), and Cetera DeGraffenreid (2006-07, Smoky Mountain) 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.

###