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**ROOSEVELT HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE® DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BOYS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (March 21, 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 Johnnie Shuler of Roosevelt High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade District of Columbia Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Shuler is the first Gatorade District of Columbia Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Roosevelt 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 Shuler as District of Columbia's best high school boys basketball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Boys Basketball Player of the Year award to be announced in March, Shuler joins an elite alumni association of past state boys basketball award winners, including Dwight Howard (2003-04, SW Atlanta Christian Academy, Ga.), Chauncey Billups (1993-94 & 1994-95, George Washington HS, Colo.), Jason Kidd (1991-92, St. Joseph Notre Dame HS, Calif.), Paul Pierce (1994-95, Inglewood HS, Calif.) and Chris Bosh (2001-02, Lincoln HS, Texas).

The 5-foot-11, 165-pound senior point guard led the Rough Riders to a 24-6 record, the District of Columbia Independent Athletic Association championship and the D.C. State Athletic Association title. A returning Second Team All-Met selection as named by The Washington Post, Shuler averaged 15.1 points, 4.5 assists, 3.3 rebounds and 2.0 steals per game this past season. He scored 11 points in a 62-60 victory against Woodson in the DCIAA title game, and then recorded 11 points and five assists in a 57-53 win over Maret in the DCSAA final.

Shuler has maintained a 3.15 GPA in the classroom and represents one of the state's top academic candidates in meeting the Gatorade Award's broad criteria. In addition to donating his time as a youth basketball instructor and mentor to area elementary school children, he has volunteered as part of multiple community-service initiatives on behalf of the Theodore Roosevelt Ambassador Program.

"Night in and night out, he led his team," said Ali Foster, head coach of rival McKinley Tech. "He is a fierce competitor and has tremendous leadership skills. When we played Roosevelt, we had them on the ropes and he simply willed his team to victory. Shuler has worked tirelessly on his game. He is one of the best players we have had in our league in the last few years."

Shuler has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on scholarship at La Salle University 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.

Shuler joins recent Gatorade District of Columbia Boys Basketball Players of the Year Kris Jenkins (2012-13 & 2011-12, Gonzaga College High School), Nate Britt (2010-11, Gonzaga College High School), Tyler Thornton (2009-10, Gonzaga College), Ian Hummer (2008-09, Gonzaga College High School), Max Kenyi (2007-08, Gonzaga College High School), and Chris Wright (2006-07, St. John's College) 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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