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**NATIONAL CATHEDRAL SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA GIRLS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (February 5, 2015) — In its 30th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Marta Sniezek of National Cathedral School as its 2014-15 Gatorade District of Columbia Girls Soccer Player of the Year. Sniezek is the seventh Gatorade District of Columbia Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from National Cathedral 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 field, distinguishes Sniezek as District of Columbia's best high school girls soccer player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Girls Soccer Player of the Year award to be announced in May, Sniezek joins an elite alumni association of past state award-winners in 12 sports, including Abby Wambach (1997-98, Our Lady of Mercy, N.Y.), Derek Jeter (1991-92, Kalamazoo HS, Mich.), Candace Parker (2001-02, Naperville Central HS, Ill.), Alexi Lalas (1987-88, Cranbrook HS, Mich.), Heather O'Reilly (2001-02, East Brunswick HS, N.J.) and Mark Sanchez (2004-05, Mission Viejo HS, Calif.).

The 5-foot-7 senior forward led the Eagles to a 13-4-4 record and the D.C. Interscholastic Athletic Association Tournament championship this past season. The 2013-14 Gatorade Washington D.C. Girls Basketball Player of the Year, Sniezek scored 26 goals and passed for five assists including a pair of goals in NCS' 3-2 win over St. John's High in the DCIAA title game. A 2014 Washington Post First Team All-Met selection and a three-time First Team All-Independent School League honoree, she concluded her prep soccer career with 54 goals.

Sniezek has maintained a 3.05 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally on behalf of the Haiti Relief Fund and with So Others May Eat, delivering food and medical supplies to families in need.

"Marta Sniezek is an incredibly impressive athlete," said Chloe Beizer, head coach of the Maret School. "She's completely dominant in the air, very strong on the ball and ultra-competitive. She was their go-to player and their playmaker. She's a game-changer."

Sniezek has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on an athletic scholarship at Stanford University beginning 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.

Sniezek joins recent Gatorade District of Columbia Girls Soccer Players of the Year Maddie Kulik (2013-14, Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School), Emily Hester (2012-13, National Cathedral School), Kara Wilson, (2011-12 & 2010-11, Sidwell Friends School), Taylor Bryant, (2009-10, Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School), Bailey Bodell (2008-09, St. John's College High School), and Tiffany McCarty (2007-08 & 2006-07, St. John's College High School) 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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