

**Contact: Matt Schiffman (312-729-3672)**

**GRANDVIEW HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE® COLORADO GIRLS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (March 12, 2015) — In its 30<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 Michaela Onyenwere of Grandview High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade Colorado Girls Basketball Player of the Year. Onyenwere is the first Gatorade Colorado Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Grandview 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 Onyenwere as Colorado'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, Onyenwere 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 5-foot-11 sophomore guard and forward averaged 23.7 points, 11.5 rebounds, 3.9 steals and 1.3 blocks per game, leading the Wolves (20-5) to the Class 5A round of 16 this past season. A 2014 First Team All-State selection, Onyenwere scored a season-high 43 points with 29 rebounds in Grandview's season-ending 86-83 loss to Lakewood in the state tournament. She shot 53.3 percent from inside the arc on the season.

Onyenwere has maintained a 3.57 weighted GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally at a nursing home, a homeless shelter and as a peer mentor.

"Michaela Onyenwere is an incredible athlete," said Grandview head coach Josh Ulitzky. "She transforms our team and makes everyone better as a result of her ability. Her athleticism is the thing that sets her apart from other players. She is able to make plays that leave an impression on coaches, players and fans. She has a true sense of where the ball is going to be and has great instincts as a player."

Onyenwere 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.

Onyenwere joins recent Gatorade Colorado Girls Basketball Players of the Year Justine Hall (2013-14, Regis Jesuit High School), Diani Akigbogun (2012-13, Regis Jesuit High School), Michaela Neuhaus (2011-12, Highlands Ranch High School), Jamie Katuna (2010-11, Longmont High School), Quincey Noonan (2009-10, Legacy), Anna Prins (2008-09, Broomfield), Alyssa Fressle (2007-08, Highlands Ranch), and Melissa Jones (2006-07, Legacy) 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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