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**SPARTANBURG HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® SOUTH CAROLINA GIRLS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (March 12, 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 Kionna Jeter of Spartanburg High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade South Carolina Girls Basketball Player of the Year. Jeter is the first Gatorade South Carolina Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Spartanburg 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 Jeter as South 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, Jeter 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-6 junior guard averaged 28.3 points, 7.1 rebounds, 5.5 steals and 3.8 assists per game this past season, leading the Vikings (21-5) to the Class AAAA state quarterfinals. The Class AAAA Player of the Year as named by the South Carolina Basketball Coaches Association, Jeter shot 44.0 percent from the field, 35.6 percent from 3-point range and 79.5 percent from the free-throw line. A three-time SCBCA Class AAAA First Team All-State selection, her 2,373 career points currently rank 10th in state history.

Jeter has maintained a B average in the classroom. She has volunteered locally on behalf of the Boys & Girls Club of America.

"Kionna Jeter can best be described as a leader, role model, and a relentless worker on both sides of the ball," said Stacey Parris, head coach of rival Byrnes High. "She is one of the best players ever to come out of the Upstate. Jeter's commitment, dedication and enthusiasm have helped rebuild the program at Spartanburg, as well as change the attitude of the community towards girls' basketball in this area."

Jeter will begin her senior 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.

Jeter joins recent Gatorade South Carolina Girls Basketball Players of the Year A'ja Wilson (2013-14, Heathwood Hall Episcopal School), Alaina Coates (2012-13, Dutch Fork High School), Asia Dozier (2011-12, Spring Valley High School), Xylina McDaniel (2010-11, Spring Valley High School), Kayla Jenerette (2009-10, Travelers Rest), and Morgan Stroman (2008-09, 2007-08 & 2006-07, Lower Richland) 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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