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NATIONAL CATHEDRAL SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA GIRLS TRACK & FIELD ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 17, 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 Jeryne Fish of National Cathedral School as its 2014-15 Gatorade District of Columbia Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Fish is the first Gatorade District of Columbia Girls Track & Field Athlete 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 track, distinguishes Fish as District of Columbia's best high school girls track & field athlete. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year award to be announced in June, Fish joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Allyson Felix (2001-02, Los Angeles Baptist, Calif.), Derek Jeter (1991-92, Kalamazoo HS, Mich.), Candace Parker (2001-02, Naperville Central HS, Ill.), Abby Wambach (1997-98, Our Lady of Mercy, N.Y.), Mark Sanchez (2004-05, Mission Viejo HS, Calif.), Lolo Jones (1997-98, Roosevelt HS, Ia.) and Bianca Knight (2006-07, Ridgeland HS, Miss.).

The 5-foot-7 senior jumper and hurdler won two individual Independent School League/Mid-Atlantic Athletic Conference this spring, leading the Eagles to a third-place finish as a team at the ISL/MAC championship meet. Fish captured victories in the long jump, soaring 18 feet, and in the triple jump with a leap of 36-3.5. A 2015 Washington Post First Team All-Met selection, she was a dual-event winner at the Draper Invitational, earning first place in the long jump with a leap of 36-1.5 effort and the triple jump with a leap of 36-4.

Fish has maintained a 3.11 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally on behalf her church youth group, a day care center for senior citizens and as an elementary school mentor.

"Jeryne Fish is an excellent track and field athlete," said Joe Lee, head coach the Bullis School in Maryland. "She has consistently been at the top of the regional and national standings and she has done this while maintaining a high GPA. She also has a wonderful attitude both on and off the track."

Fish has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete in track and field on an athletic scholarship at the University of Michigan this fall.

The <u>Gatorade Player of the Year</u> 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 <u>USA TODAY High School Sports</u>, 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.

Fish joins recent Gatorade District of Columbia Girls Track & Field Athletes of the Year Deonna Diggs (2013-14, Woodrow Wilson High School), Emily Kaplan (2012-13, Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School), Kiah Seymour (2011-12, Archbishop Carroll High School), Destiny Phillips (2010-11, Dunbar High School), Angela Bonham (2009-10 & 2008-09, Dunbar), JuaShaunna Kelly (2007-08, Roosevelt), and DeAnna Brown (2006-07, Dunbar) 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 <u>www.gatorade.com/poy</u>.