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**FAMU DEVELOPMENTAL RESEARCH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE® FLORIDA GIRLS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (March 10, 2016) — In its 31<sup>st</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Jazmine Jones of FAMU Developmental Research School as its 2015-16 Gatorade Florida Girls Basketball Player of the Year. Jones is the first Gatorade Florida Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from FAMU Developmental Research 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 Jones as Florida'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, Jones 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 6-foot senior guard led the Lady Rattlers to a 30-2 record and their fourth Class 2A state championship in five years. The two-time Florida Dairy Farmers Class 2A Player of the Year averaged 22.4 points, 9.6 rebounds, 4.7 assists, 3.0 steals and 1.0 blocks per game. Jones shot 56.9 percent from the field, 42.7 percent from 3-point range and 76.7 percent from the free-throw line. A five-time Class 2A All-State selection, she participated in the 2014 USA Basketball Women's U18 National Team Trials.

Jones has maintained a 3.31 weighted GPA in the classroom. In addition to organizing support efforts for a junior varsity player hospitalized by an aneurysm, she has volunteered locally at a nursing home and as part of organized canned food and shoe drive efforts. She has also donated her time as both a peer tutor and teacher's assistant.

"She could do it all and carried a team that started two seventh-graders to another state championship," said Willie Powers, head coach at P.K. Yonge High. "She was the most explosive guard in the state the last two years."

Jones has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on scholarship at the University of Louisville 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.

Jones joins recent Gatorade Florida Girls Basketball Players of the Year Beatrice Mompremier (2014-15 & 2013-14, Miami Senior High School), Ieshia Small (2012-13, Florida State University School), Alexis Prince (2011-12, Edgewater High School), Amber Henson (2010-11, Sickles High School), Dawnn Maye (2009-10, Dillard High School), Ashley Jones (2008-09, Lake Howell), Tiffany Hayes (2007-08, Winter Haven High School), and Krystal Thomas (2006-07, The First Academy) 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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