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

CHICAGO (June 23, 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 Page Lester of National Cathedral School as its 2015-16 Gatorade District of Columbia Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Lester is the second 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 Lester 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, Lester 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-5 sophomore distance talent captured a pair of individual titles at the Independent School League/Mid-Atlantic Conference championships this past season. Lester won the 800-meter run with a time of 2:18.57 and the 1600-meter run in 4:57.7. An accomplished triathlete, she also broke the tape in the 1600 at the Draper Invitational, clocking a 5:01.77.

Lester has maintained a 3.51 GPA in the classroom. An accomplished vocalist in her school's chorus, she has volunteered locally on behalf of the Latino Student Fund and the Nation's Capital Swim Club.

"Even as an opposing coach, it was a joy to watch Page Lester compete," said Jason Dwyer, head coach at the Potomac School. "She was unrivaled this year, and yet I never saw her ease up during any race. She was also classy about competition and was very well respected by the other athletes in the league."

Lester 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.

Lester joins recent Gatorade District of Columbia Girls Track & Field Athletes of the Year Jeryne Fish (2014-15, National Cathedral School), 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 High School), JuaShaunna Kelly (2007-08, Roosevelt High School), and DeAnna Brown (2006-07, Dunbar 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](http://www.gatorade.com/poy).

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