

Contact: Kelsey Rhoney (312-729- 3685)

**PORTLAND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE® MAINE BOYS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (March 8, 2018) — In its 33rd year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, today announced Terion Moss of Portland High School as its 2017-18 Gatorade Maine Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Moss is the first Gatorade Maine Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Portland 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 field, distinguishes Moss as Maine's best high school boys basketball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Boys Basketball Player of the Year award to be announced in March, Moss joins an elite alumni association of past state boys basketball award winners, including Karl-Anthony Towns (2012-13 & 2013-14, St. Joseph HS, N.J.), Dwight Howard (2003-04, SW Atlanta Christian Academy, Ga.), Chris Bosh (2001-02, Lincoln HS, Texas), Paul Pierce (1994-95, Inglewood HS, Calif.), Chauncey Billups (1993-94 & 1994-95, George Washington HS, Colo.) and Jason Kidd (1991-92, St. Joseph Notre Dame HS, Calif.).

The 5-foot-10, 165-pound senior guard led the Bulldogs to a 17-3 record and the Class AA quarterfinals this past season. The state's returning Gatorade Boys Basketball Player of the Year, Moss averaged 19.9 points, 4.6 assists, 4.0 rebounds and 2.9 steals per game. The North Regional MVP and the Southwestern Maine Activities Association Player of the Year, he is a finalist for Maine's Mr. Basketball award.

Moss has volunteered locally on behalf of youth basketball programs. "Terion Moss is a phenomenal basketball player," said Mike Adams, head coach at Edward Little High. "He can guard anyone from point guard to center, he plays the right way and more than anyone else he makes his teammates better. He's impossible to prepare for, and when the ball is in his hands, there's nothing you can do to stop him from doing what he wants to do."

Moss has maintained a B average in the classroom. He remains undecided upon a collegiate destination.

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 Player of the Year Selection Committee, 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.

Two-time winner Moss joins Gatorade Maine Boys Basketball Players of the Year Andrew Fleming (2015-16, Oxford Hills Comprehensive High School), Nick Mayo (2014-15, Messalonskee High School), Zach Gilpin (2013-14, Hampden Academy), Garet Beal (2012-13 & 2011-12, Jonesport-Beals High School), Tyler McFarland (2010-11, Camden Hills Regional High School), Stefano Mancini (2009-10, Falmouth High School), Thomas Knight (2008-09, Dirigo High School), Ryan Martin (2007-08, Maranacook Community High School), and Troy Barnies (2006-07, Edward Little High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a Gatorade Player of the Year, Terion will be able to select a national or local youth sports organization to receive a grant as part of the Gatorade Play It Forward program. Every Gatorade Player of the Year state winner receives a \$1,000 grant to donate and will have the opportunity to enter for an additional \$10,000 spotlight grant by writing a brief essay explaining why their selected organization deserves additional support. 12 spotlight grants - one for each sport - will be announced throughout the year.

To keep up to date on the latest happenings, become a fan of Gatorade Player of the Year on Facebook and follow the conversation on Twitter #GatoradePOY. 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 <http://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com/>.