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**GREENFIELD SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE® NORTH CAROLINA 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 Coby White of Greenfield School as its 2017-18 Gatorade North Carolina Boys Basketball Player of the Year. White was the first Gatorade North Carolina Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Greenfield School when he won the 2016-17 award.

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 White as North Carolina'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, White 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 6-foot-5, 190-pound senior guard led the Knights to a 25-10 record and the finals of the North Carolina Independent Schools 1A tournament this past season. The state's returning Gatorade Boys Basketball Player of the Year, White averaged 31.1 points, 10 rebounds and eight assists per game. He also broke the state career scoring record with 3,573 points. An All-State honoree, White was also selected to the USA TODAY's ALL-USA North Carolina First Team and has been chosen to play in the McDonald's All-American Game.

A devoted member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, White has volunteered locally on behalf of youth sports camps. "Coby White is the best player I've seen at the high school level," said Victor Young, head coach at Wayne Christian School. "The talent that he demonstrates night in and night out as a 17 or 18-year-old is amazing. He can score 40, 45 points every night and he defends, he hustles, he's tough. He can do it all."

White has maintained a 3.19 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on scholarship at the University of North Carolina 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 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 White joins Gatorade North Carolina Boys Basketball Players of the Year Edrice "Bam" Adebayo (2015-16, High Point Christian Academy), Dennis Smith Jr. (2014-15, Trinity Christian School), Keyshawn Woods (2013-14, NorthHigh Schoolide Christian Academy), Isaiah Hicks (2012-13, J.F. Webb High School), Rodney Purvis (2011-12, Upper Room Christian Academy), Marshall Plumlee (2010-11, Christ School), Reggie Bullock (2009-10, Kinston), Ryan Kelly (2008-09, Ravenscroft School), and Ty Walker (2007-08 & 2006-07, New Hanover High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a Gatorade Player of the Year, Coby 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/>.

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