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SPAULDING HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE® NEW HAMPSHIRE BOYS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (March 15, 2019) — In its 34th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company today announced **Arie Breakfield of Spaulding High School** as its **2018-19 Gatorade New Hampshire Boys Basketball Player of the Year**. Breakfield is the first Gatorade New Hampshire Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Spaulding 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 Breakfield as New Hampshire'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, Breakfield joins an elite alumni association of past state boys basketball award winners, including Karl-Anthony Towns (2012-13 & 2013-14, St. Joseph High School, N.J.), Dwight Howard (2003-04, Southwest Atlanta Christian Academy, Ga.), Chris Bosh (2001-02, Lincoln High School, Texas), Paul Pierce (1994-95, Inglewood High School, Calif.), Chauncey Billups (1993-94 & 1994-95, George Washington High School, Colo.) and Jason Kidd (1991-92, St. Joseph Notre Dame High School, Calif.).

The 6-foot-5, 190-pound senior forward averaged 17.6 points, 11.1 rebounds, 2.2 steals, 1.8 assists and 1.4 blocks per game this past season, leading the Red Raiders (17-6) to the Division I state tournament quarterfinals. Breakfield is this season's New Hampshire Basketball Coaches Organization's Mr. New Hampshire Basketball winner and the Division I Player of the Year. A four-year starter for Spaulding, he concluded his prep basketball career with 1,340 points.

A member of the Spaulding High Leadership Team, Breakfield is a two-year class president. He has volunteered locally with the Rochester Recreation Department and as a youth basketball coach. "Arie is an all-court player who can score in multiple ways," said Nate Stanton, head coach of Londonderry High. "He's athletic and a tough matchup both outside and inside. He does a lot of the little things to get his team in position to win."

Breakfield has maintained a 3.76 GPA in the classroom and represents one of the state's top academic candidates in meeting the Gatorade award's broad criteria. 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.

Breakfield joins Gatorade New Hampshire Boys Basketball Players of the Year Max Bonney-Liles (2017-18, Alvirne High School), Joey Glynn (2016-17, Portsmouth High School), Keith Brown (2015-16, Pelham High School), and Terance Mann (2014-15, Tilton School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a part of Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Breakfield also has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national youth sports organization of his choosing. He is also eligible to submit an essay to win one of twelve \$10,000 spotlight grants for the organization of choice, which will be announced throughout the year.

Since the program's inception in 1985, Gatorade Player of the Year award recipients have won hundreds of professional and college championships, and many have also turned into pillars in their communities, becoming coaches, business owners and educators.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit www.Gatorade.com/POY, on Facebook at www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY or follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/Gatorade.

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