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**SANFORD SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® DELAWARE BOYS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (March 21, 2013) — In its 28th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Sabri Thompson of Sanford School as its 2012-13 Gatorade Delaware Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Thompson is the first Gatorade Delaware Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Sanford 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 Thompson as Delaware'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, Thompson joins an elite alumni association of past state boys basketball award winners, including Dwight Howard (2003-04, SW Atlanta Christian Academy, Ga.), Chauncey Billups (1993-94 & 1994-95, George Washington HS, Colo.), Jason Kidd (1991-92, St. Joseph Notre Dame HS, Calif.), Paul Pierce (1994-95, Inglewood HS, Calif.) and Chris Bosh (2001-02, Lincoln HS, Texas).

The 6-foot-3, 190-pound senior guard averaged 14.4 points, 3.6 rebounds, 3.2 assists and 2.6 steals this past season, leading the Warriors (19-5) to the state final. A 2012 First Team All-State selection, Thompson scored a game-high 22 points with four steals and four rebounds in a 60-40 win over Salesianum in the state semifinals.

Thompson has maintained an A average in the classroom. He has volunteered locally on behalf of his school's diversity alliance, its sportsmanship committee and as a peer leader.

"Sabri Thompson is an excellent player and was a huge part of his team's success," said Brendan Haley, head coach at Salesianum High. "He's a great competitor and a gentleman off the court as well."

Thompson has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on an athletic scholarship at Northwestern State University in Louisiana 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.

Thompson joins recent Gatorade Delaware Boys Basketball Players of the Year Eric Laster (2011-12, Polytech High School), Tim Massado (2010-11, St. Elizabeth High School), Corey Crawford (2009-10, Dover), Paul Reynolds (2008-09, Smyrna High School), Erique Gumbs (2007-08, Caravel Academy), and Jarrett Mann (2006 - 07, Middletown) 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.

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