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**IOWA CITY WEST HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® IOWA 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 Jeremy Morgan of Iowa City West High School as its 2012-13 Gatorade Iowa Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Morgan is the first Gatorade Iowa Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Iowa City West 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 court, distinguishes Morgan as Iowa'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, Morgan 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-6, 190-pound senior guard led the Trojans to a 26-0 record and their second straight Class 4A state title this past season. Morgan averaged 12.1 points, 5.5 rebounds, 3.6 assists and 2.6 steals while shooting at 60.2 percent from inside the arc this past season. The 2013 Mississippi Valley Conference Player of the Year, he averaged 19 points per game in the state tournament and helped Iowa City West to consecutive undefeated championship seasons.

Morgan has maintained a 3.31 GPA in the classroom. A member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, he has volunteered locally on behalf of his church youth group and as a bible camp counselor.

"Jeremy Morgan was the heart and soul of our team the last few years," said Iowa City West head coach Steve Bergman. "He is a great leader who sacrifices personal achievements for team success."

Morgan has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on an athletic scholarship at the University of Northern Iowa 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.

Morgan joins recent Gatorade Iowa Boys Basketball Players of the Year Marcus Paige (2011-12, Linn-Mar High School), Jarrod Uthoff (2010-11, Jefferson High School), Harrison Barnes (2009-10 & 2008-09, Ames), Matt Gatens (2007-08, City High School), and Brent Barz (2006 - 07, Johnston) 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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