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**ST. THOMAS MORE HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE® LOUISIANA BOYS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (March 21, 2013) — In its 28<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Trey Touchet of St. Thomas More High School as its 2012-13 Gatorade Louisiana Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Touchet is the second Gatorade Louisiana Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from St. Thomas More 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 Touchet as Louisiana'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, Touchet 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-2, 180-pound junior guard led the Cougars to a 34-4 record and the Class 4A state championship this past season. Touchet averaged 20.3 points, 4.8 rebounds, 2.4 assists and 1.3 steals per game, shooting 57 percent from the field, 41 percent from 3-point range and 83 percent from the free throw line. In four Class 4A state tournament games, Touchet averaged 23.8 points. He amassed 15 points, four rebounds, four assists and three steals in the 46-40 semi-finals against Istrouma.

Also a track standout, Touchet has maintained a 4.00 GPA in the classroom and represents one of the state's top academic candidates in meeting the Gatorade Award's broad criteria. A member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, he has volunteered on behalf of Habitat for Humanity, The Extra Mile's adopt-a-family initiative and Miles Perret Cancer Services' Games of Acadiana.

"Touchet is an outstanding basketball player and a team player," said Marty Lewis, head coach of rival Cecilia High. "He is well-rounded as far as his basketball skills are concerned. If you need him to shoot it, he can. If you need him to take it to the hoop, he can. He is so good at controlling and adjusting his body when attacking the basket to draw fouls. He is also plays outstanding defense."

Touchet will begin his senior year of high school 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.

Touchet joins recent Gatorade Louisiana Boys Basketball Players of the Year Ricardo Gathers (2011-12 & 2010-11, Riverside Academy), Matt Derenbecker (2009-10 & 2008-09, Metairie Park Country Day School), and Greg Monroe (2007-08 & 2006 - 07, Helen Cox High School) 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](http://www.gatorade.com/poy).

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