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ROCKHURST HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® MISSOURI 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 Kyle Wolf of Rockhurst High School as its 2012-13 Gatorade Missouri Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Wolf is the second Gatorade Missouri Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Rockhurst 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 Wolf as Missouri'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, Wolf 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 forward led the Hawklets to a 27-5 record and the Class 5 state title this past season. Wolf averaged 18.3 points, 10.4 rebounds and 1.6 assists while shooting at 61 percent from inside the arc. A two-time First Team All-State selection, he scored 30 points and pulled down 12 rebounds in a 73-59 win over DeSmet Jesuit High in the Class 5 semifinals.

Wolf has maintained a 3.84 GPA in the classroom. A devoted parishioner in his church community, he has volunteered locally on behalf of an assisted living center for senior citizens and as a youth basketball coach.

"Kyle Wolf is an extremely talented player," said David Garrison, head coach at Park Hill High. "He not only played awesome down the stretch in leading Rockhurst to a state championship, he is also a great kid with tremendous character."

Wolf remains undecided upon a collegiate destination.

The <u>Gatorade Player of the Year</u> 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 <u>USA TODAY High School Sports</u>, 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.

Wolf joins recent Gatorade Missouri Boys Basketball Players of the Year Cameron Biedscheid (2011-12, Cardinal Ritter College Prep. High School), Bradley Beal (2010-11 & 2009-10, Chaminade College Preparatory School), Alec Burks (2008-09, Grandview High School), Kramer Soderberg (2007-08, Saint Charles West High School), and Conner Teahan (2006 – 07, Rockhurst) 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 <u>www.gatorade.com/poy</u>.