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**CENTENNIAL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® NEVADA 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 Marcus Allen of Centennial High School as its 2012-13 Gatorade Nevada Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Allen is the first Gatorade Nevada Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Centennial 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 Allen as Nevada'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, Allen 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-4, 185-pound senior guard averaged 28 points, 5.4 rebounds, 3.7 assists and 3.6 assists this past season, leading the Bulldogs (23-10) to the Division I state final. A two-time First Team All-State selection, Allen scored a game-high 37 points in an 87-72 win over Canyon Springs in the Division I semifinals. He scored at least 30 points in 14 of Centennial's games this season.

Allen has maintained a 4.0 GPA in the classroom and will graduate as co-valedictorian of his class. He has volunteered locally on behalf of the Special Olympics, the Boys and Girls Club of America and has served on his school's student council.

"Marcus Allen is a great team leader and he really excelled against top competition this year," said Jack Tarango, head coach at Legacy High. "He willed his team to many victories this season."

Allen has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on an athletic scholarship at Stanford University 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.

Allen joins recent Gatorade Nevada Boys Basketball Players of the Year Shabazz Muhammad (2011-12 & 2010-11, Bishop Gorman High School), Johnathan Loyd (2009-10, Bishop Gorman), Anthony Marshall (2008-09, Mojave High School), and Luke Babbitt (2007 - 08 & 2006 - 07, Galena 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.

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