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**LONG ISLAND LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® NEW YORK 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 Kentan Facey of Long Island Lutheran High School as its 2012-13 Gatorade New York Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Facey is the second Gatorade New York Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Long Island Lutheran 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 Facey as New York'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, Facey 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-9, 205-pound senior forward has led the Crusaders to a 24-2 record, the No. 1 spot in the New York State Sportswriters Association Class AA rankings and a berth in the semifinals of the Class AA New York Federation Tournament of Champions against Abraham Lincoln High, scheduled for March 22. Facey is averaging 14.5 points, 12.2 rebounds and 3.8 blocked shots through 26 games. MVP of this season's Collegiate Tournament, he is rated the nation's No. 65 recruit in the Class of 2013 by Rivals.com.

Facey has maintained a B average in the classroom. He has volunteered locally on behalf of youth basketball programs and a Hope for Haiti benefit at his school.

"I love Kentan Facey as a player," said Brian Fuscio, head coach at Albany Academy. "He's always had a nice face-up game; now he's come up with a good back-to-the-basket game too, and he rebounds the ball well on both ends of the floor."

Facey has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on scholarship at the University of Connecticut 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.

Facey joins recent Gatorade New York Boys Basketball Players of the Year Omar Calhoun (2011-12, Christ the King Regional High School), Achraf Yacoubou (2010-11, Long Island Lutheran High School), Tobias Harris (2009-10, Half Hollow Hills West), Brandon Triche (2008-09, Jamesville-DeWitt High School), Sylvan Landesberg (2007-08, Holy Cross High School), and Jonny Flynn (2006 - 07, Niagara Falls) 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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