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**DOUGLASS HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® OKLAHOMA 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 Stephen Clark of Douglass High School as its 2012-13 Gatorade Oklahoma Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Clark is the first Gatorade Oklahoma Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Douglass 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 Clark as Oklahoma'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, Clark 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 5-foot-10, 165-pound senior point guard led the Trojans to a 26-4 record and their fourth consecutive Class 4A state title this past season. He averaged 36.8 points, 13 assists, six rebounds and 5.7 steals per game while shooting at 94 percent from the free throw line. The 2011-12 Gatorade Oklahoma Boys Basketball Player of the Year, Clark scored 51 points in an 82-80 win over Roland High in the Class 4A state final.

Clark has maintained a 3.59 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally as part of an elementary education literacy-outreach program and on behalf of multiple community service initiatives in association with his church youth group.

"Stephen Clark is a player who just cares so much, not only about the things that he does on the court, but also about bringing out the best in his teammates," said Douglass High head coach Anthony Andrews. "That's a rare sight to see. He's just so much fun to watch and he really brings so much excitement to the floor."

Clark has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on an athletic scholarship at Oklahoma State 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.

Two time winner Clark joins Gatorade Oklahoma Boys Basketball Players of the Year Ryan Spangler (2010-11, Bridge Creek High School), Tyler Neal (2009-10, Putnam City West), Xavier Henry (2008-09 & 2007-08, Putnam City High School), and Blake Griffin (2006 - 07, Oklahoma Christian 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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