

**Contact: Lauren Rollins (312-729-3607)**

**LONE PEAK HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE® UTAH 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 Nick Emery of Lone Peak High School as its 2012-13 Gatorade Utah Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Emery is the third Gatorade Utah Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Lone Peak 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 Emery as Utah'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, Emery 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, 182-pound senior guard led the Knights to a 26-1 record, their third consecutive Class 5A state title and the No. 3 spot in the USA Today Super 25 national rankings. The state's Gatorade Boys Basketball Player of the Year as a sophomore, Emery averaged 17.9 points, 3.8 rebounds, 3.6 assists and 2.8 steals per game this past season. A three-time First Team All-State selection, he was also named Mr. Basketball by the Deseret News.

Emery has maintained a 3.74 GPA in the classroom. A devoted member of his church community, he has volunteered locally assisting the elderly and coaching youth basketball teams.

"He has such unbelievable range, and if you get too close to him, he'll go right by you," said Scott Briggs, head coach at West Jordan High. "He's phenomenal in the open floor and he has a mid-range game too. He's been so good, for so long."

Emery has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on scholarship at Brigham Young University after serving a two-year Mormon mission with the LDS church.

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.

Emery joins recent Gatorade Utah Boys Basketball Players of the Year Jordan Loveridge (2011-12, West Jordan High School), Nick Emery (2010-11, Lone Peak High School), Kyle Collinsworth (2009-10, Provo), Tyler Haws (2008-09 & 2007-08, Lone Peak High School), and Chris Collinsworth (2006 - 07, Provo) 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).

###