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**OAK HILL ACADEMY STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® VIRGINIA 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 Troy Williams of Oak Hill Academy as its 2012-13 Gatorade Virginia Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Williams is the eighth Gatorade Virginia Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Oak Hill Academy.

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 Williams as Virginia'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, Williams 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 has led the Warriors to a 33-5 record and a berth in the National High School Invitational Tournament, scheduled to begin April 4. Williams is averaging 16.2 points, 7.5 rebounds, 4.0 assists, 2.0 blocks and 1.5 steals through 38 games. A Jordan Brand Classic Game selection, Williams has recorded a pair of triple-doubles this season, including 22 points, 14 rebounds and 10 assists in a 98-58 win over Quality Education Academy.

Williams has maintained a B average in the classroom. He has volunteered at the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Virginia Peninsula in his hometown of Hampton in addition to donating his time as a youth basketball coach and counselor.

"Troy Williams is a very aggressive defensive and offensive player," said Marvin Reed, head coach of Mount Zion Academy. "This young man really makes a difference for his team. He always get his teammates involved and has great leadership skills."

Williams has signed a national letter of intent to play basketball on an athletic scholarship at Indiana University beginning 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.

Williams joins recent Gatorade Virginia Boys Basketball Players of the Year Tyler Lewis (2011-12, Oak Hill Academy), James McAdoo (2010-11 & 2009-10, Norfolk Christian High School), Keith 'Tiny' Gallon (2008-09, Oak Hill Academy), Brandon Jennings (2007-08, Oak Hill Academy), and Nolan Smith (2006 - 07, Oak Hill Academy) 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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