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GERMANTOWN HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® WISCONSIN 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 Luke Fischer of Germantown High School as its 2012-13 Gatorade Wisconsin Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Fischer is the second Gatorade Wisconsin Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Germantown 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 Fischer as Wisconsin'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, Fischer 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 7-foot, 225-pound senior center led the Warhawks (28-0) to a second consecutive Division 1 state championship this past season. Fischer averaged 21.0 points, 9.4 rebounds, 2.9 blocks, 1.6 assists and 1.4 steals. The state's 2013 Mr. Basketball as named by the Wisconsin Basketball Coaches Association, he shot 64 percent from the field and 72.8 percent from the free throw line. Fischer totaled 32 points on 14-of-19 shooting to go along with 16 rebounds, six blocks and two assists in an 80-60, state semifinal win over Oshkosh North. In a 57-28, title-clinching victory against Mukwonago, he recorded 17 points on 8-of-10 shooting, seven rebounds and two blocks. He concluded his prep career in a program enjoying a 56-game winning streak.

Fischer has maintained a 3.08 GPA in the classroom. In addition to donating his time as a youth basketball instructor, he has volunteered on behalf of his church's food drive for the needy. He has also served as part of the Germantown Youth Futures child development program and as a motivational speaker for elementary school students.

"He's an outstanding athlete with excellent skills who makes his teammates better," said Bob Maronde, head coach of rival Grafton High. "He could've easily scored 40 points a game, but it was more important to him that his team succeeds. He's a classy young man with enormous potential and small ego."

Fischer has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on scholarship at Indiana University this fall.

The <u>Gatorade Player of the Year</u> 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 <u>USA TODAY High School Sports</u>, 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.

Fischer joins recent Gatorade Wisconsin Boys Basketball Players of the Year Sam Dekker (2011-12, Sheboygan Lutheran High School), Paul Jesperson (2010-11, Merrill High School), Josh Gasser (2009-10, Port Washington), Ben Averkamp (2008-09, Germantown High School), Kwamain Mitchell (2007-08, Dominican High School), and Tim Jarmusz (2006 – 07, Oshkosh West) 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 <u>www.gatorade.com/poy</u>.