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BORAH HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® IDAHO BOYS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (March 21, 2014) — In its 29th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Isaiah Wright of Borah High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade Idaho Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Wright is the third Gatorade Idaho Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Borah 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 Wright as Idaho'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, Wright 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, 175-pound senior point guard averaged 17.8 points, 9.9 rebounds, 5.1 assists and 2.7 steals per game while shooting nearly 80 percent from the free throw line this past season, leading the Lions (19-8) to the Class 5A state final. The state's reigning Gatorade Boys Basketball Player of the Year, Wright scored 18 points to go with seven rebounds and seven assists in Borah's 63-53 loss to Capital in the state final.

Wright has maintained a B average in the classroom. He has volunteered locally on behalf of the Special Olympics, as a youth basketball coach and in association with multiple community clean-up initiatives.

"Isaiah Wright is the most complete player I've seen in this state in my 23 years as a coach," said Mike Grafe, head coach at Meridian High. "He is a true leader and a terrific player. There is nobody else who is even close."

Wright has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on an athletic scholarship at the University of Utah 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 Wright joins Gatorade Idaho Boys Basketball Players of the Year Joey Nebeker (2011-12, Melba High School), Kyle Dranginis (2010-11 & 2009-10, Skyview High School), Josh Fuller (2008-09, Madison High School), Mitch Bruneel (2007-08, Eagle High School), and Matt Ballenger (2006-07, Skyview) 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.