Contact: Lauren Rollins (312-729-3607)

BALLARD HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® KENTUCKY 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 Quentin Snider of Ballard High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade Kentucky Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Snider is the third Gatorade Kentucky Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Ballard 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 Snider as Kentucky'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, Snider 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-1, 170-pound senior point guard averaged 22.1 points, 5.9 assists, 3.8 rebounds and 1.7 steals per game this past season, leading the Bruins (28-6) to the Seventh Region championship game. A three-time First Team All-State selection, Snider shot 48 percent from the field, 36 percent from 3-point range and 74 percent from the free throw line. He set school records for career points and assists.

Snider has maintained a 3.37 GPA in the classroom. In addition to donating his time as a youth basketball instructor, he has volunteered as a peer mediator in his school, as a teacher's assistant in a special needs classroom and on behalf of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

"Quentin Snider has been a coach's dream," said Ballard head coach Chris Renner. "He has been the first to practice and the last to leave. He approaches the game to not only get himself better every day but also his teammates. He helped lead his school to 113 wins in four varsity seasons."

Snider has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on scholarship at the University of Louisville 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.

Snider joins recent Gatorade Kentucky Boys Basketball Players of the Year Dominique Hawkins (2012-13, Madison Central High School), Nathan Dieudonne (2011-12, Trinity High School), Timmy Knipp (2010-11, Elliott County High School), Elisha Justice (2009-10, Shelby Valley), Jon Hood (2008-09, Madisonville North Hopkins High School), Darius Miller (2007-08, Mason County High School), and Steffphon Pettigrew (2006-07, Elizabethtown) 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.