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**ST. THOMAS MORE HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® LOUISIANA 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 Trey Touchet of St. Thomas More High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade Louisiana Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Touchet is the second Gatorade Louisiana Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from St. Thomas More 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 Touchet as Louisiana'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, Touchet 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 state's returning Gatorade Boys Basketball Player of the Year, Touchet averaged 18.3 points, 6.4 rebounds, 4.0 assists and 1.5 steals per game this past season, leading the Cougars (30-6) to the Class 4A state semifinals. Also the 2013 Class 4A Player of the Year as named by the Louisiana Sports Writers Association, the 6-foot-2, 185-pound senior guard shot 61 percent from the field, 42 percent from 3-point range and 79 percent from the free throw line. He led the Cougars to the Class 4A state title as a junior.

Touchet has maintained a 4.00 GPA in the classroom. A member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, he has volunteered on behalf of Habitat for Humanity, The Extra Mile's adopt-a-family initiative and Miles Perret Cancer Services' Games of Acadiana.

"He's such a hard matchup because he plays four positions," said Oliver Winston, head coach of rival Westgate High. "He's a deadly shooter, he can handle the ball, run the point, attack the rack and post you up. He knows the game really well. He's unselfish. Defensively, he does the little things. He puts up numbers, and you really can't stop that. If it's a critical situation and he has the ball in his hand, it's usually not good for you. He's got that whole package."

Touchet has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on scholarship at the University of Texas at El Paso 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 Touchet joins Gatorade Louisiana Boys Basketball Players of the Year Ricardo Gathers (2011-12 & 2010-11, Riverside Academy), Matt Derenbecker (2009-10 & 2008-09, Metairie Park Country Day School), and Greg Monroe (2007-08 & 2006-07, Helen Cox High School) 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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