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**CHAMINADE COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® MISSOURI 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 Jayson Tatum of Chaminade College Preparatory School as its 2013-14 Gatorade Missouri Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Tatum is the third Gatorade Missouri Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Chaminade College Preparatory 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 Tatum as Missouri'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, Tatum 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-8, 190-pound sophomore guard averaged 26 points, 11 rebounds, five assists and three blocks per game this past season, leading the Red Devils (24-3) to the Class 5 district final. A member of the 2013 USA Basketball Men's U16 National Team that won a gold medal in Uruguay last summer, Tatum scored 30 points in Chaminade's 85-67 win over St. Louis University High in the district semifinals. He is ranked as the nation's No. 4 recruit in the class of 2016 by both ESPN and Rivals.

Tatum has maintained a B average in the classroom. He has volunteered locally on behalf of an area homeless shelter, as a youth basketball coach and as part of multiple leadership retreats at his school.

"Jayson Tatum is a wonderful student athlete with a very high potential to be successful at the next levels of play," said David Watkins, head coach at Ritenour High. "I have seen him score numerous 30-point games and accumulate numerous double-doubles throughout the season. Since he was little, he has always strived to play against the best so that he can be the best."

Tatum will begin his junior year of high school 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.

Tatum joins recent Gatorade Missouri Boys Basketball Players of the Year Kyle Wolf (2012-13, Rockhurst High School), Cameron Biedscheid (2011-12, Cardinal Ritter College Prep. High School), Bradley Beal (2010-11 & 2009-10, Chaminade College Preparatory School), Alec Burks (2008-09, Grandview High School), Kramer Soderberg (2007-08, Saint Charles West High School), and Conner Teahan (2006-07, Rockhurst) 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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