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FREMONT HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® NEBRASHA 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 Mitchell Hahn of Fremont High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade Nebrasha Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Hahn is the first Gatorade Nebrasha Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Fremont 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 Hahn as Nebrasha'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, Hahn 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-7, 200-pound senior forward averaged 18.9 points, 10.8 rebounds and 2.7 assists per game this past season, leading the Tigers (15-10) to the Class A district finals. A returning Honorable Mention Class A All-State selection as named by the Omaha World-Herald, Hahn shot 35 percent from 3-point range and 70 percent from the free throw line.

Hahn has maintained a 3.86 GPA in the classroom and represents one of the state's top academic candidates in meeting the Gatorade Award's broad criteria. A member of his school's Letter Club, Tiger Pals and Tiger Basketball Association, he has volunteered locally at the YMCA daycare facility and as a mentor to students with special needs. He has also donated his time as a youth soccer and basketball instructor, and on behalf of his church's youth group.

"I have been the head basketball coach at Fremont over the past 12 seasons, and I have never had the privilege of working with a better all-around young man than Mitchell Hahn," said Tigers head coach Mark Williams. "I believe he represents the best of the term student-athlete."

Hahn has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on scholarship at the College of the Holy Cross in Massachusetts 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 <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.

Hahn joins recent Gatorade Nebrasha Boys Basketball Players of the Year Josiah Gustafson (2012-13, Millard North High School), Mike Gesell (2011-12 & 2010-11, South Sioux City High School), Elliott Eliason (2009-10 & 2008-09, Chadron), and Wes Eikmeier (2007-08 & 2006-07, Archbishop Bergan Catholic 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.