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BREWSTER ACADEMY STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® NEW HAMPSHIRE 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 Isaac Copeland of Brewster Academy as its 2013-14 Gatorade New Hampshire Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Copeland is the third Gatorade New Hampshire Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Brewster Academy.

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 Copeland as New Hampshire'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, Copeland 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-9, 210-pound senior forward led the Bobcats to a 33-2 record, the New England Preparatory School Athletic Conference Class AAA championship and the National Prep Championship this past season. Copeland averaged 15.6 points, seven rebounds, 2.4 steals, 2.3 assists and 2.2 blocks per game while shooting nearly 60 percent from inside the arc. A 2014 First Team All-NEPSAC selection, he scored 15 points to help Brewster Academy defeat St. Thomas More (Conn.), 88-77, in the National Prep Championship. He is ranked as the nation's No. 26 recruit in the class of 2014 by ESPN and No. 37 by Rivals.

Copeland has maintained a 3.35 GPA in the classroom. A member of the National Honor Society and the B.A.G.S. Foundations (Boys and Girls Succeeding), he has volunteered locally in association with multiple community cleanup initiatives and as a youth basketball coach.

"I cannot imagine a better basketball prospect than Isaac Copeland," said Whit Lesure, head coach at Bridgeton Academy. "I was impressed with him from the first moments I scouted him. He is one of the best frontcourt prospects I've seen in 30 years."

Copeland has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on an athletic scholarship at Georgetown University 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.

Copeland joins recent Gatorade New Hampshire Boys Basketball Players of the Year Eric Gendron (2012-13, Merrimack High School), Tyler Gendron (2011-12, Merrimack High School), Connor Green (2010-11, Bishop Guertin High School), Melvin Ejim (2009-10, Brewster Academy), Alex Oriakhi (2008-09, Tilton School), Emmanuel Negedu (2007-08, Brewster Academy), and Josh Owens (2006-07, Phillips Exeter Academy) 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.