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**DAVIES HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® NORTH DAKOTA 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 Tanner Kretchman of Davies High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade North Dakota Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Kretchman is the first Gatorade North Dakota Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Davies 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 Kretchman as North Dakota'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, Kretchman 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 5-foot-11, 175-pound senior guard led the Eagles to a 23-2 record and the Class A state title this past season. Kretchman averaged 29.2 points, five assists, four rebounds and 2.3 steals per game while shooting 80 percent from the free throw line. The 2014 Eastern Dakota Conference Player of the Year and North Dakota's Mr. Basketball award winner, he scored 32 points to go with three assists in a 62-55 win over Bismarck St. Mary's in the Class A state final.

Kretchman has maintained a 3.71 GPA in the classroom. A member of the National Honor Society and his school's peer leadership program, he has volunteered locally as a youth basketball coach.

"Tanner Kretchman is a great individual player whose stats speak for themselves, but he also makes his teammates so much better," said Derek Gathman, head coach at Devils Lake High. "He does a great job of creating scoring opportunities for others and just finding a way to win. He is quiet and lets his play do the talking."

Kretchman has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on an athletic scholarship at Minnesota State University Moorhead 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.

Kretchman joins recent Gatorade North Dakota Boys Basketball Players of the Year A.J. Jacobson (2012-13, Shanley High School), Dexter Werner (2011-12 & 2010-11, Bismarck High School), Nik Savageau (2009-10, Fargo North), Joe Hanstad (2008-09, Dickinson High School), Austin Dufault (2007-08, Killdeer High School), and Tate Kick (2006-07, Dickinson) 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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