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**ST. ANDREW'S SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® RHODE ISLAND 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 Bonzie Colson of St. Andrew's School as its 2013-14 Gatorade Rhode Island Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Colson is the sixth Gatorade Rhode Island Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from St. Andrew's 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 Colson as Rhode Island'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, Colson 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 returning Gatorade State Player of the Year, the 6-foot-5 senior forward averaged 16.8 points, 11.7 rebounds, 3.9 blocks and 1.0 assists per game this past season, leading the Saints (26-5) to the New England Prep School Athletic Council Class AA tournament semifinals. A two-time First Team All-NEPSAC Class AA selection, Colson was nominated for the McDonald's All-American Game and has been invited to participate in April's Albert Schweitzer Games in Germany. He concluded his prep basketball career with 1,938 points and 1,162 rebounds.

Colson has maintained a B average in the classroom. A member of the St. Andrew's School chorus and theatre program, he has volunteered locally as a youth basketball coach and referee.

"Bonzie is most dangerous and most difficult to prepare for in that his appearance and physical attributes are underwhelming upon the traditional eye-test," said Cody Hatt, head coach of Vermont Academy. "However, he then goes out, gets his 20-12 or 25-15, makes every crucial play around the box down the stretch and raises the level of his teammates throughout."

Colson has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on an athletic scholarship at the University of Notre Dame 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 Colson joins Gatorade Rhode Island Boys Basketball Players of the Year Jarell Lawson (2011-12, Central High School), Michael Carter-Williams (2010-11 & 2009-10, St. Andrew's School), Jay Jeannotte (2008-09, Narragansett High School), Ashton Watkins (2007-08, Classical High School), and Rakim Sanders (2006-07, St. Andrew's 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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