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**ROCHESTER HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® VERMONT 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 Pavin Parrish of Rochester High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade Vermont Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Parrish is the first Gatorade Vermont Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Rochester 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 Parrish as Vermont'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, Parrish 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-10, 160-pound senior guard averaged 31.0 points, 14.5 rebounds, 8.6 assists and 5.2 steals per game this past season, leading the Rockets (20-3) to the Division 4 semifinals. A Burlington Free Press Second-Team All-State selection as a junior, Parrish concluded his prep career with 2,479 points, the most in Vermont history.

Parrish has maintained an A average in the classroom. President of his senior class, he has volunteered locally on behalf of community clean-up initiatives and youth basketball programs.

"Parrish has tremendous court vision and basketball IQ, and always makes the right decision on the floor," said Derek Cipriano, head coach at Craftsbury Academy. "He's also a tenacious defender and is constantly locked on the other team's best player, regardless of size."

Parrish will attend Castleton State College this fall, where he will play basketball.

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.

Parrish joins recent Gatorade Vermont Boys Basketball Players of the Year Matt St. Amour (2012-13 & 2011-12, Missiquoi Valley Union High School), Ben Ferris (2010-11, Essex High School), Joe O'Shea (2009-10, Burlington), Clancy Rugg (2008-09, Burlington High School), Matt Joslin (2007-08, North Country Union High School), and Pat Bergmann (2006-07, Rice Memorial) 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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