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**HUNTINGTON ST. JOSEPH PREP. STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE® WEST VIRGINIA BOYS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (March 21, 2014) — In its 29<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Montaque Gill-Caesar of Huntington St. Joseph Prep. as its 2013-14 Gatorade West Virginia Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Gill-Caesar is the second Gatorade West Virginia Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Huntington St. Joseph Prep..

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 Gill-Caesar as West Virginia'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, Gill-Caesar 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-6, 215-pound junior forward has led the Irish to a 27-4 record, a No. 5 ranking in the USA Today Super 25 and a berth in the Dick's Sporting Goods High School National Tournament, scheduled for April 3. Gill-Caesar is averaging 16.3 points, 6.8 rebounds and 1.8 steals. Co-MVP of the Nike Global Challenge, he is rated as the nation's No. 18 recruit in the Class of 2015 by ESPN.

Gill-Caesar has maintained a 3.15 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally on behalf of a food bank, the YMCA and the U.S. Marine Corps Toys for Tots program.

"Gill-Caesar is one of the smoothest players we saw all year," said Ralf Melis, head coach at Miller School of Albemarle (Va.). "He can really get to the basket, both in the open court and the half court. He's a solid shooter, and with his length he can create for his teammates. Defensively, he causes a lot of problems too, and he is an excellent rebounder on both ends of the floor."

Gill-Caesar will begin his senior year of high school 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.

Gill-Caesar joins recent Gatorade West Virginia Boys Basketball Players of the Year Andrew Wiggins (2012-13 & 2011-12, Huntington St. Joseph's Prep.), Chase Fischer (2010-11, Ripley High School), Noah Cottrill (2009-10, Logan), Aaron Dobson (2008-09, South Charleston High School), Bryant Irwin (2007-08, Bridgeport Senior High School), and Patrick Patterson (2006-07, Huntington) 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](http://www.gatorade.com/poy).

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