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## **HAMILTON HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® WISCONSIN 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 Kevon Looney of Hamilton High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade Wisconsin Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Looney is the first Gatorade Wisconsin Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Hamilton 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 Looney as Wisconsin'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, Looney 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, 190-pound senior forward averaged 27.9 points, 12.7 rebounds, 8.0 blocks, 7.0 assists and 2.5 steals per game this past season, leading the Wildcats (17-6) to the Division 1 sectional quarterfinals. A McDonald's High School All-American Game selection, Looney shot 60 percent from the field, 43 percent from 3-point range and 77 percent from the free throw line. Named the state's 2014 Mr. Basketball by the Wisconsin Basketball Coaches Association, he participated in the 2013-14 USA Basketball Men's Developmental National Team October Mini-Camp this past fall.

Looney has maintained a 3.34 GPA in the classroom. In addition to donating his time as a youth basketball instructor and peer tutor, he has volunteered extensively on behalf of the Running Rebels Community Organization and the Milwaukee Violence Free Zone Initiative.

"Kevon was the most difficult matchup in the City Conference for any team," said Tyler Podoll, head coach of rival Bay View High. "This year, we held him to three points in the first half, and he exploded against great defense for 16 in the third quarter. He made NBA-range 3-pointers and wing jumpers and transition dunks and broke the game open. That was a constant for four years against many teams."

Looney has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on scholarship at UCLA 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.

Looney joins recent Gatorade Wisconsin Boys Basketball Players of the Year Luke Fischer (2012-13, Germantown High School), Sam Dekker (2011-12, Sheboygan Lutheran High School), Paul Jespersen (2010-11, Merrill High School), Josh Gasser (2009-10, Port Washington), Ben Averkamp (2008-09, Germantown High School), Kwamain Mitchell (2007-08, Dominican High School), and Tim Jarmusz (2006-07, Oshkosh West) 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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