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BULLIS SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® MARYLAND FOOTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (December 4, 2014) — In its 30th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Dwayne Haskins of Bullis School as its 2014-15 Gatorade Maryland Football Player of the Year. Haskins is the first Gatorade Maryland Football Player of the Year to be chosen from Bullis 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 field, distinguishes Haskins as Maryland's best high school football player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Football Player of the Year award announced in December, Haskins joins an elite alumni association of past state award-winners in 12 sports, including Mark Sanchez (2004-05, Mission Viejo HS, Calif.), Wes Welker (1999-00, Heritage Hall HS, Okla.), Terrell Suggs (1999-00, Hamilton HS, Ariz.), Anquan Boldin (1998-99, Pahokee HS, Fla.) and Jerome Bettis (1989-90, Mackenzie HS, Mich.).

The 6-foot-3, 180-pound junior quarterback passed for 1,936 yards and 22 touchdowns this past season, leading the Bulldogs to a 9-1 record and their second straight Interstate Athletic Conference championship. A member of the U.S. Under-18 National Team, Haskins completed 159 of 259 passes (61 percent) and was intercepted just five times. A First Team All-Conference selection and a member of the Preseason Washington Post All-Met Team, he is rated as the nation's No. 26 recruit in the Class of 2016 by ESPN.

Haskins has maintained a B average in the classroom. He has volunteered locally feeding the homeless and mentoring younger students.

"Haskins plays the game the way it should be played," said Bernard Joseph, head coach at St. Stephen's and St. Agnes School (Va.). "He's smart and plays far beyond his grade level. He's able to progress through his reads unlike most high school quarterbacks and he manages situations very well."

Haskins will begin his senior year of high school next 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.

Haskins joins recent Gatorade Maryland Football Players of the Year Taiwan Deal (2013-14, DeMatha Catholic High School), Kendall Fuller (2012-13, Our Lady of Good Counsel High School), Cyrus Jones (2011-12, Gilman School), Darius Jennings (2010-11, Gilman School), Zach Zwinak (2009-10, Linganore) and Jelani Jenkins (2008-09 & 2007-08, Our Lady of Good Counsel) 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.