

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Kelly Magnus (312-729-3622)

MUSKEGON HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® MICHIGAN BOYS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (March 20, 2015) — 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 Deyonta Davis of Muskegon High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade Michigan Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Davis is the first Gatorade Michigan Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Muskegon 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 Davis as Michigan'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, Davis 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-10, 230-pound senior forward had led the Big Reds to a 22-1 record and a berth in the Class A regional final at the time of his selection. Davis averaged 19.2 points, 16.5 rebounds and 7.5 blocks per game while shooting 66 percent inside the arc through 23 games. He registered a triple-double in Muskegon's 69-48 win over Forest Hills Central in the regional semifinals, racking up 22 points, 17 rebounds and 10 blocked shots. A Michigan Mr. Basketball finalist, Davis is a 2015 McDonald's All-American Game selection and a 2015 Jordan Brand Classic game invitee.

Davis has maintained a 3.07 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally on behalf of the YMCA and as a youth basketball coach in addition to delivering meals and supplies to the needy.

"Deyonta Davis is a great player with unlimited potential," said Muskegon High head coach Keith Guy. "There is nothing that he can't do on the basketball floor. He has the rare ability to impact a game from both ends of the floor and he is the best player that I ever coached."

Davis has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on scholarship at Michigan State University 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.

Davis joins recent Gatorade Michigan Boys Basketball Players of the Year Yante Maten (2013-14, Bloomfield Hills High School), Derrick Walton Jr. (2012-13, Chandler Park Academy), Matt Costello (2011-12 & 2010-11, Bay City Western High School), Ray McCallum (2009-10 & 2008-09, Detroit Country Day School), Brad Redford (2007-08, Frankenmuth High School), and Corperryale 'Manny' Harris (2006-07, Redford High 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.

###