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**NORFOLK HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® NEBRASKA 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 Tyler Hagedorn of Norfolk High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade Nebraska Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Hagedorn is the first Gatorade Nebraska Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Norfolk 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 Hagedorn as Nebraska'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, Hagedorn 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, 215-pound senior wing averaged 17.3 points, 6.7 rebounds and 2.5 assists per game this past season, leading the Panthers (25-1) to the Class A state quarterfinals. A returning Lincoln Journal Star Third Team Super-State and Omaha World-Herald Third Team All-Nebraska selection, he shot 50.3 percent from the field, 42.2 percent from 3-point range and 77.3 percent from the free-throw line.

Hagedorn has maintained an A average in the classroom and served on his school's student council. A member of the National Honor Society, Future Business Leaders of America, Key Club International and DECA, he has donated his time as a youth basketball instructor and has volunteered on behalf of both his church and Mercy Meals of America.

"He's a great player from a great program, and most importantly a great kid," said Scott Steinbrook, head coach of rival Kearney High. "He's grown into a leader for Norfolk, he's a fierce competitor, and is very well respected by the players on my team. Tyler has represented himself, his family, his school and his entire community remarkably well over the course of this season, as well as his entire career."

Hagedorn has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on scholarship at the University of South Dakota 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.

Hagedorn joins recent Gatorade Nebraska Boys Basketball Players of the Year Mitchell Hahn (2013-14, Fremont High School), Josiah Gustafson (2012-13, Millard North High School), Mike Gesell (2011-12 & 2010-11, South Sioux City High School), Elliott Eliason (2009-10 & 2008-09, Chadron High School), and Wes Eikmeier (2007-08 & 2006-07, Archbishop Bergan Catholic 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.

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