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**OWASSO HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® OKLAHOMA 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 Shake Milton of Owasso High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade Oklahoma Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Milton is the first Gatorade Oklahoma Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Owasso 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 Milton as Oklahoma'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, Milton 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-5, 190-pound senior guard averaged 30.4 points and 7.1 rebounds while shooting 64 percent from inside the arc, leading the Rams (24-4) to the Class 6A quarterfinals. The state's returning Gatorade Boys Basketball Player of the Year, he also posted regular-season averages of 3.5 rebounds and 2.2 steals per game while shooting 87 percent from the free throw line.

Milton has maintained a 3.94 weighted GPA in the classroom. A member of the National Honor Society, he has volunteered locally on behalf of the Special Olympics and his church youth group.

"Shake Milton is, without a doubt, the most well-rounded basketball player in the state of Oklahoma over the past two seasons," said Owasso head coach Mark Vancuren. "His ability to maintain a 30-points-per-game average in Oklahoma's largest competitive classification speaks volumes about his often uncanny scoring abilities against the state's best defenses. He is the type of player that every coach dreams of having on their team."

Milton has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on scholarship at Southern Methodist 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.

Two-time winner Milton joins Gatorade Oklahoma Boys Basketball Players of the Year Stephen Clark (2012-13 & 2011-12, Douglass High School), Ryan Spangler (2010-11, Bridge Creek High School), Tyler Neal (2009-10, Putnam City West High School), Xavier Henry (2008-09 & 2007-08, Putnam City High School), and Blake Griffin (2006-07, Oklahoma Christian 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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