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**THE HAVERFORD SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® PENNSYLVANIA 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 Levan Shawn Alston of The Haverford School as its 2014-15 Gatorade Pennsylvania Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Alston is the first Gatorade Pennsylvania Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from The Haverford 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 Alston as Pennsylvania'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, Alston 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-3, 170-pound senior guard led the Fords to a 17-11 record and the semifinals of the Pennsylvania Independent Schools tournament this past season. Alston averaged 19.6 points, 5.1 rebounds, 3.3 assists and 2.1 steals per game. A three-time First Team All-Inter-Academic League selection, he was conference co-MVP as a sophomore and a Second Team All-State honoree as a junior. Alston is rated the nation's No. 93 recruit in the Class of 2015 by ESPN.

Alston has maintained a B average in the classroom. He has volunteered locally on behalf of youth basketball programs.

"Alston really slices up defenses," said Jamie Chadwin, head coach at Springside Chestnut Hill Academy. "He's fantastic at getting into the paint and finishing, he's got a strong mid-range pull-up game ... he can dominate a team in a number of different ways. He's also a consummate team player, with an ability to make other guys better."

Alston has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on scholarship at Temple 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.

Alston joins recent Gatorade Pennsylvania Boys Basketball Players of the Year J.C. Show (2013-14, Abington Heights High School), Steve Vasturia (2012-13, St. Joseph's Preparatory School), Amile Jefferson (2011-12 & 2010-11, Friends' Central School), Tony Chennault (2009-10, Neumann-Goretti High School), Maalik Wayns (2008-09, Roman Catholic High School), Brian Walsh (2007-08, Moon Area High School), and Jeff Jones (2006-07, Monsignor Bonner 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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