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**WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE® SOUTH DAKOTA BOYS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (March 20, 2015) — In its 30<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Deng Geu of Washington High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade South Dakota Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Geu is the first Gatorade South Dakota Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Washington 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 Geu as South Dakota'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, Geu 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, 180-pound senior forward has led the Warriors to a 20-2 record and a berth in the quarterfinals of the Class AA state quarterfinals against Huron, scheduled for March 19. Geu is averaging 17.5 points, 7.8 rebounds and 1.2 blocks per game entering the state tournament. He was selected to the All-City Team and the All-State Tournament Team as a junior.

Geu has maintained a B average in the classroom. He has volunteered locally on behalf of an elementary school literacy-outreach initiative.

"Deng Geu is unbelievably athletic for a 6-foot-9 kid," said Brent Deckert, head coach at Brandon Valley High. "He can handle the ball, shoot from the outside and he just destroys the inside. He's always a factor in the paint and makes it very tough to score anything in there."

Geu has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on scholarship at North Dakota 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.

Geu joins recent Gatorade South Dakota Boys Basketball Players of the Year Justin Decker (2013-14, Huron High School), Zach Hanson (2012-13 & 2011-12, TF Riggs High School), Zach Horstman (2010-11, Winner High School), Jared Hannigan (2009-10, Central High School), Tony Fiegen (2008-09, Madison High School), Louie Krogman (2007-08, White River High School), and Dale Moss (2006-07, Brandon Valley 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](http://www.gatorade.com/poy).

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