

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Kelly Magnus (312-729-3622)

**JAMES MADISON HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® TEXAS 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 Admon Gilder of James Madison High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade Texas Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Gilder is the first Gatorade Texas Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from James Madison 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 Gilder as Texas'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, Gilder 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-4, 200-pound senior shooting guard averaged 30.8 points, 9.6 rebounds, 4.8 assists, 3.4 steals and 1.4 blocks per game this past season, leading the Trojans (25-8) to the Class 4A state semifinals. Gilder connected on 325-of-615 shots from the field, including 96-of-242 attempts from 3-point range. The 2015 11-4A District MVP, he topped 30 points 19 times this winter and scored 40 or more on five occasions with a season-high of 48.

Gilder has maintained a B-plus average in the classroom. He has volunteered locally as a youth basketball coach and has donated his time as part of multiple community-service initiatives in association with his church.

"Admon Gilder is a very special player. He has all the tools—skills, desire and character—anyone would want and does need in their basketball program," said Craig Bankhead, head coach of White High. "There is no doubt Madison would not be the championship caliber program it is today without him."

Gilder has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on scholarship at Texas A&M 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.

Gilder joins recent Gatorade Texas Boys Basketball Players of the Year Justise Winslow (2013-14 & 2012-13, St. John's School), Marcus Smart (2011-12 & 2010-11, Marcus High School), Joseph Young (2009-10, Yates High School), Tommy Mason-Griffin (2008-09, Madison High School), Willie Warren (2007-08, North Crowley High School), and Gary Johnson (2006-07, Aldine 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.

###