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**RAINIER BEACH HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® WASHINGTON 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 Dejourne Murray of Rainier Beach High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade Washington Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Murray is the second Gatorade Washington Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Rainier Beach 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 Murray as Washington'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, Murray 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, 175-pound senior wing averaged 25.0 points, 12.4 rebounds, 8.0 assists and 3.2 steals per game this past season, leading the Vikings (25-4) to the Class 3A state championship game. Named Mr. Basketball by the Washington Interscholastic Basketball Coaches Association, Murray recorded 24 double-doubles and 14 triple-doubles. In three Class 3A state tournament games, Murray averaged 17.0 points, 13.3 rebounds, 2.3 assists and 2.0 steals, capturing First Team All-Tournament honors. Also the State Player of the Year as named by The Seattle Times and News Tribune, he participated in the NBPA Top 100 Camp as well as Nike's LeBron James Skills Academy, Kevin Durant Skills Academy and Elite Youth Basketball League this past summer.

Murray has maintained a B average in the classroom. In addition to donating his time as a peer English and mathematics tutor, he has volunteered as part of multiple community service initiatives on behalf of the Jamal Crawford Foundation.

"Athletically, he is a beast," said Craig Jackson, head coach of rival Franklin High. "We played them in the second game of the season, and he scored 52 points, most of them from the perimeter, but when he attacked the rim—whoa! High-flying, graceful and explosive are the words that describe his play. Not to mention that he did some of the same things to grown men while playing in [1998-99 Gatorade Washington Boys Basketball Player of the Year] Jamal Crawford's summer league."

Murray has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on scholarship at the University of Washington 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.

Murray joins recent Gatorade Washington Boys Basketball Players of the Year Jason Todd (2013-14 & 2012-13, Jackson High School), Jordan Chatman (2011-12, Union High School), Gary Bell Jr. (2010-11, Kentridge High School), Joe Harris (2009-10, Chelan High School), Peyton Siva (2008-09, Franklin High School), Abdul Gaddy (2007-08, Bellarmine Prep. School), and Janelle McMillan (2006-07, O'Dea 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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