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CHRIST THE KING HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® NEW YORK GIRLS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (March 10, 2016) — In its 31st year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Dominique Toussaint of Christ the King High School as its 2015-16 Gatorade New York Girls Basketball Player of the Year. Toussaint is the eighth Gatorade New York Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Christ the King 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 Toussaint as New York's best high school girls basketball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Girls Basketball Player of the Year award announced in March, Toussaint joins an elite alumni association of past state girls basketball award-winners, including Candace Parker (2001-02, Naperville Central HS, Ill.), Diana Taurasi (1998-99 & 1999-00, Don Antonio Lugo HS, Calif.), Maya Moore (2005-06 Collins Hill HS, Ga.), Rashanda McCants (2004-05, Asheville HS, N.C.), Shyra Ely (1999-00, Ben Davis HS, Ind.) and Lisa Leslie (1988-89, Morningside HS, Calif.).

The 5-foot-10 senior guard has led the Royals to as 18-8 record and a berth in the semifinals of the state Class AA Catholic high school championships, scheduled for March 11. Toussaint is averaging 19.7 points, 6.8 rebounds, 3.5 assists and 2.7 steals per game. A First Team All-State selection, she is a finalist for New York's Miss Basketball award and was named the Queens Player of the Year as a junior.

Toussaint has maintained a B average in the classroom. A devoted member of her church community, she has volunteered locally on behalf of youth basketball programs.

"Toussaint is a great player," said Chez Williams, head coach at Bishop Loughlin High. "She's very athletic, she's tough to guard and she absolutely gets after it on the defensive end."

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

Toussaint joins recent Gatorade New York Girls Basketball Players of the Year Lauren Brozoski (2014-15, Long Island Lutheran High School), Sierra Calhoun (2013-14, Christ the King High School), Saniya Chong (2012-13, Ossining High School), Breanna Stewart (2011-12 & 2010-11, Cicero-North Syracuse High School), Bria Hartley (2009-10 & 2008-09, North Babylon High School), Samantha Prahalis (2007-08, Commack High School), and Lorin Dixon (2006-07, Christ the King 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.