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## OXFORD HILLS COMPREHENSIVE HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® MAINE BOYS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (March 17, 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 Andrew Fleming of Oxford Hills Comprehensive High School as its 2015-16 Gatorade Maine Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Fleming is the first Gatorade Maine Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Oxford Hills Comprehensive 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 Fleming as Maine'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, Fleming 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-6, 210-pound senior forward led the Vikings to a 15-5 record and the Class AA North semifinals this past season. Fleming averaged 27.8 points, 14.4 rebounds, 4.0 blocks and 3.7 steals per game. The Kennebec Valley Athletic Conference North Class AA Player of the Year, he was also a First Team All-State selection by the Maine Sunday Telegram.

Fleming has maintained a 3.43 GPA in the classroom. A member of the National Honor Society, he has volunteered on behalf of youth sports programs.

"Fleming impacts the game in so many ways on both ends of the floor and in transition," said Mike Hathaway, head coach at Leavitt High. "Offensively, he has a good post-up and mid-range game. You have to completely alter your defense for him. He also has a high basketball IQ and plays within a team concept."

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

Fleming joins recent Gatorade Maine Boys Basketball Players of the Year Nick Mayo (2014-15, Messalonskee High School), Zach Gilpin (2013-14, Hampden Academy), Garet Beal (2012-13 & 2011-12, Jonesport-Beals High School), Tyler McFarland (2010-11, Camden Hills Regional High School), Stefano Mancini (2009-10, Falmouth High School), Thomas Knight (2008-09, Dirigo High School), Ryan Martin (2007-08, Maranacook Community High School), and Troy Barnies (2006-07, Edward Little 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 <a href="https://www.gatorade.com/poy.">www.gatorade.com/poy.</a>