Contact: John Manzo (312-729-3656)

## GWYNN PARK HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® MARYLAND 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 Isaiah Miles of Gwynn Park High School as its 2015-16 Gatorade Maryland Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Miles is the first Gatorade Maryland Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Gwynn Park 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 Miles as Maryland'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, Miles 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-3, 195-pound senior forward averaged 14.3 and 8.2 per game while shooting 65 percent from inside the arc this past season, leading the Yellowjackets (24-3) to the Class 2A semifinals. A 2016 First Team All-League selection, Miles recorded a double-double with 12 rebounds and 10 points in the Class 2A South Region finals against New Town.

Miles has maintained a B average in the classroom and represents one of the state's top academic candidates in meeting the Gatorade award's broad criteria. He has volunteered locally as a peer mentor and as a youth basketball coach.

"I feel strongly that Isaiah Miles possesses the intelligence, diligence and aptitude to succeed in basketball at the college level and in life," said Gwynn Park head coach Michael Glick. "He is a mature and intelligent young man who always puts forth his best effort."

Miles remains undecided upon a collegiate destination.

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.

Miles joins recent Gatorade Maryland Boys Basketball Players of the Year Justin Robinson (2014-15, Saint James School), Allonzo Trier (2013-14, Montrose Christian School), Marquis Wright (2012-13, North Point High School), Justin Anderson (2011-12, Montrose Christian School), Marcus Thornton (2010-11, Bishop McNamara High School), Josh Hairston (2009-10, Montrose Christian School), Christian Webster (2008-09, Landon School), Sean Mosley (2007-08, St. Frances Academy), and Malcolm Delaney (2006-07, Towson Catholic 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>