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**CONCORD-CARLISLE HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® MASSACHUSETTS 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 Eric Sellew of Concord-Carlisle High School as its 2015-16 Gatorade Massachusetts Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Sellew is the first Gatorade Massachusetts Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Concord-Carlisle 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 Sellew as Massachusetts'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, Sellew 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-7, 200-pound senior power forward has led the Patriots to a 23-2 record and the Division 2 state championship game, scheduled for March 19. Sellew is averaging 21.5 points, 13.7 rebounds, 4.4 blocks, 4.0 assists and 2.3 steals through 25 games. The two-time Dual County League MVP, he has recorded a double-double in every game this season, and he entered the final game as a high school player with a school-record 1,170 career points.

Sellew has maintained a weighted 3.80 GPA in the classroom and represents one of the state's top academic candidates in meeting the Gatorade award's broad criteria. A budding entrepreneur who runs his own firewood business, he has volunteered locally with Gaining Ground Farming and as a youth basketball coach. He also donated his time to Hurricane Sandy relief efforts in New York.

"Eric is one of the finest basketball players and competitors that I have seen during my 15 years of coaching high school basketball," said Dennis Doherty, head coach of Wayland High. "Offensively, he can shoot, score off the bounce, post-up, make free throws and is an underrated passer. Defensively, he can essentially guard anyone."

Sellew has verbally committed to attend Amherst College, where he will play basketball 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.

Sellew joins recent Gatorade Massachusetts Boys Basketball Players of the Year Guilien Smith (2014-15, Catholic Memorial High School), Tyler Nelson (2013-14, Central Catholic High School), Tyler Gibson (2012-13, Rockland High School), Rene Castro (2011-12, Worcester Academy), Pat Connaughton (2010-11, St. John's Preparatory School), Nate Lubick (2009-10 & 2008-09, St. Mark's School), Stevie Mejia (2007-08, Lawrence Academy), and Mike Baldarelli (2006-07, Holy Name Central Catholic) 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.