

Contact: John Manzo (312-729-3656)

**PELHAM HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® NEW HAMPSHIRE 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 Keith Brown of Pelham High School as its 2015-16 Gatorade New Hampshire Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Brown is the first Gatorade New Hampshire Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Pelham 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 Brown as New Hampshire'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, Brown 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-2, 190-pound senior guard led the Pythons to a 23-2 record and the Division III state championship this past season. Brown averaged 28.5 points, 10.8 rebounds and 3.9 assists per game while shooting 63 percent from inside the arc. The 2016 Division III Player of the Year and New Hampshire's Mr. Basketball award winner, he scored 22 points with 13 rebounds in a 43-39 win over Kearsarge in the title-clinching game. Brown concluded his prep career with 1,978 points.

Brown has maintained a 3.32 GPA in the classroom. A member of the Future Business Leaders of America, he has volunteered locally on behalf of an animal adoption program and as a youth basketball coach.

"Keith Brown is an outstanding player and person," said Eric Saucier, head coach at Conant High. "On the court, he is the best player in the state of New Hampshire. He has worked on his game harder than anyone in the last four years and it has shown in his progression."

Brown 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.

Brown joins recent Gatorade New Hampshire Boys Basketball Players of the Year Terance Mann (2014-15, Tilton School), Isaac Copeland (2013-14, Brewster Academy), Eric Gendron (2012-13, Merrimack High School), Tyler Gendron (2011-12, Merrimack High School), Connor Green (2010-11, Bishop Guertin High School), Melvin Ejim (2009-10, Brewster Academy), Alex Oriakhi (2008-09, Tilton School), Emmanuel Negedu (2007-08, Brewster Academy), and Josh Owens (2006-07, Phillips Exeter Academy) 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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