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LAKESIDE SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® WASHINGTON 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 Isiah Brown of Lakeside School as its 2015-16 Gatorade Washington Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Brown is the first Gatorade Washington Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Lakeside 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 Washington'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, 185-pound senior point guard averaged 33.8 points, 6.0 rebounds, 1.9 assists and 1.7 steals per game for the Lions (13-11) this past season. The State Player of the Year as named by The News Tribune, Brown shot 44.7 percent from the field and 85.3 percent from the free-throw line. Also the Washington Interscholastic Basketball Coaches Association Class 3A Player of the Year, his 2,732 career points broke the 19-year-old Metro League scoring record set by 1995-96 Gatorade Washington Boys Basketball Player of the Year Michael Johnson.

Brown has maintained a 3.47 GPA in the classroom. In addition to donating his time as a youth basketball instructor, he also volunteered on behalf of Watts Basketball and the Boys & Girls Clubs of America's Smilow Rainier Vista Club.

"Isiah Brown is a very gifted athlete with amazing basketball skills," said Jerry Petty, head coach at rival Cleveland High. "I, for one, did not enjoy playing against him because he was such a dynamic player that could singlehandedly put a team on his back and win a game. As much as I love the way he played the game of basketball, I was more impressed on how he carried himself."

Brown has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on scholarship at Northwestern University this fall.

The <u>Gatorade Player of the Year</u> 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 <u>USA TODAY High School Sports</u>, 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 Washington Boys Basketball Players of the Year Dejounte Murray (2014-15, Rainier Beach High School), Jason Todd (2013-14 & 2012-13, Jackson High School), Jordan Chatman (2011-12, Union High School), Gary Bell Jr. (2010-11, Kentridge High School), Joe Harris (2009-10, Chelan), Peyton Siva (2008-09, Franklin High School), Abdul Gaddy (2007-08, Bellarmine Prep. School), and Jamelle McMillan (2006-07, O'Dea 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 <u>www.gatorade.com/poy</u>.