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**BOYS TOWN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE® NEBRASKA BOYS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (March 20, 2017) — In its 32<sup>nd</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, today announced Teddy Allen of Boys Town High School as its 2016-17 Gatorade Nebraska Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Allen is the first Gatorade Nebraska Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Boys Town 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 Allen as Nebraska'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, Allen joins an elite alumni association of past state boys basketball award winners, including Karl-Anthony Towns (2012-13 & 2013-14, St. Joseph HS, N.J.), Dwight Howard (2003-04, SW Atlanta Christian Academy, Ga.), Chris Bosh (2001-02, Lincoln HS, Texas), Paul Pierce (1994-95, Inglewood HS, Calif.), Chauncey Billups (1993-94 & 1994-95, George Washington HS, Colo.) and Jason Kidd (1991-92, St. Joseph Notre Dame HS, Calif.).

The 6-foot-6, 215-pound senior forward led the Cowboys to a 20-7 record and the quarterfinals of the Class C-1 state tournament this past season. Allen averaged 31.7 points, 12.8 rebounds, 4.1 assists and 3.3 steals per game. A Class C-1 First Team All-State selection as a junior, he was also a Second Team All-Nebraska honoree.

Allen has volunteered locally on behalf of youth basketball programs. "Teddy Allen is one heck of a player," said Chip Daehling, head coach at Douglas County West High. "He shoots the ball really well and can get to the hole whenever he wants, but he's not just a scorer. He commands double- and triple-teams, and the way he sees the floor and sees his teammates, he makes everyone better."

Allen has maintained a B average in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on scholarship at West Virginia University 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 Player of the Year Selection Committee, 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.

Allen joins recent Gatorade Nebraska Boys Basketball Players of the Year Aguek Arop (2015-16, Omaha South High School), Tyler Hagedorn (2014-15, Norfolk High School), Mitchell Hahn (2013-14, Fremont High School), Josiah Gustafson (2012-13, Millard North High School), Mike Gesell (2011-12 & 2010-11, South Sioux City High School), Elliott Eliason (2009-10 & 2008-09, Chadron High School), and Wes Eikmeier (2007-08 & 2006-07, Archbishop Bergan Catholic High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a Gatorade Player of the Year, Teddy will be able to select a national or local youth sports organization to receive a grant as part of the Gatorade Play It Forward program. Every Gatorade Player of the Year state winner receives a \$1,000 grant to donate and will have the opportunity to enter for an additional \$10,000 spotlight grant by writing a brief essay explaining why their selected organization deserves additional support. 12 spotlight grants - one for each sport - will be announced throughout the year.

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](http://www.gatorade.com/poy).