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**HUDSON CATHOLIC REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE® NEW JERSEY BOYS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (March 20, 2017) — In its 32nd year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, today announced Jahvon Quinerly of Hudson Catholic Regional High School as its 2016-17 Gatorade New Jersey Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Quinerly is the first Gatorade New Jersey Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Hudson Catholic Regional 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 Quinerly as New Jersey'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, Quinerly 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-2, 160-pound junior guard led the Hawks to a 26-4 record and the Non-Public B state championship game this past season. Quinerly averaged 20.4 points, 5.4 assists, 3.1 rebounds and 1.9 steals per game. MVP of the Metro Classic, he was selected to the All-Tournament teams at the City of Palms Classic and the Hoophall Classic, and played in the Under Armour Elite 24 game.

Quinerly has volunteered locally on behalf of youth basketball programs and food-donation drives. "Quinerly makes the right plays at the right time and has a great feel for the game," said Alex Mirabel, head coach at St. Peter's Prep. "He has elevated his game to a new level this year."

Quinerly has maintained a B-plus average in the classroom. He will begin his senior year of high school 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.

Quinerly joins recent Gatorade New Jersey Boys Basketball Players of the Year Tyus Battle (2015-16, St. Joseph High School), Malachi Richardson (2014-15, Trenton Catholic Academy), Karl Towns Jr. (2013-14 & 2012-13, St. Joseph High School), Tyler Ennis (2011-12, St. Benedict's Prep.), Michael Gilchrist (2010-11, St. Patrick High School), Kyrie Irving (2009-10, St. Patrick High School), Michael Gilchrist (2008-09, St. Patrick High School), Samardo Samuels (2007-08, St. Benedict's Prep.), and Corey Fisher (2006-07, St. Patrick High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a Gatorade Player of the Year, Jahvon 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.