

Contact: John Manzo (312-729-3656)

**ENOSBURG FALLS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE® VERMONT 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 Calvin Carter of Enosburg Falls High School as its 2016-17 Gatorade Vermont Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Carter is the first Gatorade Vermont Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Enosburg Falls 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 Carter as Vermont'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, Carter 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-4, 175-pound senior guard led the Hornets to a perfect 24-0 record and the program's first Division 2 state championship this past season. Carter averaged 21 points, 6.1 rebounds, 5.1 assists and 2.1 steals per game. A First Team Burlington Free Press All-State honoree, he was named to the Vermont Basketball Coaches Association Dream Dozen each of the past two seasons and was selected to USA TODAY's ALL-USA Vermont First Team.

Carter has assisted students with disabilities in his school and works on his family's farm. "Carter can really score, but there are also so many other things he does that make his teammates better," said Aaron Hill, head coach at Hazen High. "He's skilled and versatile and can control a basketball game."

Carter has maintained a B average in the classroom. He 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 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.

Carter joins recent Gatorade Vermont Boys Basketball Players of the Year Ben Shungu (2015-16 & 2014-15, Rice Memorial High School), Pavin Parrish (2013-14, Rochester High School), Matt St. Amour (2012-13 & 2011-12, Missisquoi Valley Union High School), Ben Ferris (2010-11, Essex High School), Joe O'Shea (2009-10, Burlington High School), Clancy Rugg (2008-09, Burlington High School), Matt Joslin (2007-08, North Country Union High School), and Pat Bergmann (2006-07, Rice Memorial High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a Gatorade Player of the Year, Calvin 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.