LYON COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE KENTUCKY BOYS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (March 21, 2024) — In its 39th year of honoring the nation's most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Travis Perry** of **Lyon County High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade Kentucky Boys Basketball Player of the Year**. Perry is the first Gatorade Kentucky Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Lyon County High School.

The award, which celebrates the nation's top high school athletes for excellence on the court, in the classroom and in the community, distinguishes Perry as Kentucky's best high school boys basketball player. From CEOs and coaches to star athletes, Gatorade Player of the Year winners showcase the power of sport, touting an all-star group of alumni that includes LeBron James (2002-03 & 2001-02, St. Vincent – St. Mary High School, Ohio), Karl-Anthony Towns (2013-14 & 2012-13, St. Joseph High School, N.J.) and Jayson Tatum (2015-16, 2014-15 & 2013-14, Chaminade College Preparatory School, Mo.).

At the time of his selection, the 6-foot-2, 175-pound senior guard had led the Lyons to a 32-3 record and a berth in the first round of the state tournament. The state's returning Gatorade Player of the Year, Perry averaged 29.5 points, 5.4 rebounds, 5.1 assists and 3.7 steals through 35 games while connecting on 42.0 percent of his 3-point attempts (170-of-405). He entered the state tournament with a state-record 5,393 points in his prep basketball career, more than 1,000 points ahead of No. 2. He is also the state's career leader in 3-pointers (698) and free throws made (919) entering the postseason and ranks No. 1 on the state's single-season 3-pointers list with 175 as a junior.

A member of the Future Business Leaders of America and the BETA club, Perry has volunteered locally as a youth basketball coach and referee. He has also donated his time to multiple community service initiatives through his church youth group. "Travis is a once-in-a-generation player," said D.G. Sherrill, head coach of Bowling Green High. "He's extremely dangerous. He scores at all three levels, has great range and is a great facilitator. His team is never out of a game with him on the court."

Perry has maintained a 4.0 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a national letter of intent to play basketball on scholarship at the University of Kentucky 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 Player of the Year Selection Committee, which leverages experts including coaches, scouts, media and others as sources to help evaluate and determine the state winners in each sport.

Two-time winner Perry joins recent Gatorade Kentucky Boys Basketball Players of the Year Reed Sheppard (2021-22, North Laurel High School), Sam Vinson (2020-21, Highlands High School) and Alex Matthews (2019-20, John Hardin High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

As part of Gatorade's commitment to breaking down barriers in sport, every Player of the Year also receives a grant to donate to a social impact partner. To date, Gatorade Player of the Year winners' grants have totaled more than \$4.9 million across more than 1,600 organizations.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit playeroftheyear.gatorade.com or follow us on social media on Facebook at facebook.com/GatoradePOY, Instagram at instagram.com/Gatorade and Twitter at twitter.com/Gatorade.