

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

Michon Ellis, McDonald's  
[merg0805@ameritech.net](mailto:merg0805@ameritech.net)  
630/623-4061

Kevin Dietz, Golin/Harris  
[kdietz@golinharris.com](mailto:kdietz@golinharris.com)  
312/729-4281

**McDONALD'S ALL AMERICAN GAME®**  
**FACT SHEET**

**THE GAME:**

This year marks the 27<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the McDonald's All American High School Boys Basketball Game and the third annual Girls Game.

**THE 2004 GAMES:**

The 2004 McDonald's All American High School Basketball Games will be held Wednesday, March 31, at the Ford Center in Oklahoma City, OK. The Girls Game tips off at 6:30 p.m. (EST) and will be broadcast on ESPN2 on Thursday, April 1 at 5 p.m. (EST), while the Boys Game will begin at 9 p.m. (EST) and will be broadcast live on ESPN.

**HIGH SCHOOL'S VERSION OF THE "DREAM TEAM:"**

The McDonald's All American Boys Team® alumni represent some of men's basketball's greatest players, including former and current NCAA and NBA superstars Michael Jordan (retired), Magic Johnson (retired), Kevin Garnett (Minnesota Timberwolves), LeBron James (Cleveland Cavaliers) and Carmelo Anthony (Denver Nuggets); current college stand-outs such as Chris Duhon (Duke), Taliek Brown (UConn), Josh Childress (Stanford) and Shannon Brown (Michigan State); in addition to women's NCAA stars Shanna Zolman (Tennessee), Ann Strother (UConn), and Seimone Augustus (LSU).

Nearly 650 high school athletes have been named to the McDonald's All American Team. From that alumni class, more than 97 percent have played college basketball for Division I programs and more than 100 currently compete in the NBA. For the third year, 24 high school senior girl basketball players have been selected to play in the Girls Game -- and based on last year's performance, women's basketball is getting the same caliber of players.

**SELECTING THE TEAM:**

A selection committee of prominent high school coaches, prep scouts and media from across the country choose the nation's top graduating high school boy and girl basketball players from a pool of approximately 2,500 seniors. Morgan Wootten, retired DeMatha High School (Hyattsville, MD) coach, and the winningest high school basketball coach of all time, serves as chairman of the McDonald's All American Selection Committee and legendary former UCLA coach, John Wooden, chairman of the McDonald's All American Game, serves as an advisor to the committee.

**CHARITY:**

Each year, proceeds from the All American Game benefit the local chapter of the Ronald McDonald House Charities®. This year, the net proceeds will benefit Ronald McDonald House Charities of Oklahoma. More than \$3 million has been raised for various charities since the Game was first played in 1978.

# # #