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**TOP HIGH SCHOOL COACHES SELECTED TO LEAD 27th ANNUAL
McDONALD'S ALL AMERICAN® BOYS HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL GAME**

OAK BROOK, Ill. (Feb. 4, 2004) – McDonald's® today announced the head coaches for the 27th annual McDonald's All American High School Boys Basketball Game, set to take place on Wednesday, March 31 at the Ford Center in Oklahoma City. Bob Flynn, head basketball coach at Cardinal Gibbons School in Baltimore, Md., will lead the Boys East squad in this year's Game, while A.D. Burtschi, head basketball coach of Putnam City High School in Oklahoma City, will lead the West squad. ESPN will broadcast the Game LIVE starting at 9 p.m. (EST).

Burtschi has been coaching basketball since 1972. In his 31 years of coaching varsity high school basketball, Burtschi has an overall record of 489 wins and 208 losses. As the coach of Mt. Saint Mary's High School in Oklahoma City, Burtschi was the first coach ever to lead his team to both the District and Regional Championships. He also received the Central Conference Coach of the Year award four times, while being named District Coach of the Year twice. Burtschi has since moved to Putnam City High School, where his team has twice been crowned Mid State Champions. More recently, the Putnam Panthers have won the Class 6A State Championship in 2002, and have been runner-up in 2001 and 2003. Burtschi has coached 17 players who have gone on to successful collegiate careers, 15 All-State players and three professional players.

"Coaching in Oklahoma City for the past 31 years has been an honor and a privilege. But coaching the West squad for this year's McDonald's All American Boys Game in Oklahoma City, right in my backyard, is truly a blessing," said Burtschi. "It's an amazing opportunity to be able meet and teach the best high school players in the country and it will be an experience that I never forget."

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As a seasoned veteran of coaching high school and collegiate basketball, Bob Flynn has made a name for himself as one of the most formidable coaches in the East. Flynn started off his career as an assistant to legendary college coach Jim Phelan at Mount St. Mary's College. While at Mount, Flynn and the Mountaineers made three trips to the NCAA Division II Tournament, including a trip to the Final Four in 1985. Following his 10-year tenure under Phelan, Flynn took over the reigns as head coach of St. Mary's College of Maryland. After four seasons rebuilding the St. Mary's program -- including setting a then NCAA school record for victories in a season -- Flynn decided to return to his alma mater, Cardinal Gibbons School in Baltimore, Md., to restore a once dominate high school program. Just last season his team won 17 games, the most victories the school had experienced in eight years, and returned to the area's Top 20 rankings. This season, Cardinal Gibbons is currently ranked 3rd in the Baltimore Metropolitan area and currently holds an impressive 21-4 record in the extremely competitive Baltimore Catholic League. Flynn played for the late Ray Mullis, who coached at the school for 31 years and coached the East team in the 1991 McDonald's All-American game.

"The McDonald's All American Game is the gold standard for high school all star games because it features the best basketball talent in the nation while benefiting a great cause, the Ronald McDonald House Charities® of Oklahoma," said Flynn. "Being a part of something that does so much for others is truly special."

Approximately 1,500 top boy high school basketball players from across the country are nominated to the McDonald's All American Team each year. A selection committee of prominent boys and girls basketball experts, chaired by Morgan Wootten, will select the final team members in late February. Legendary UCLA coach John Wooden, who has been involved in the McDonald's All American Game since its inception, serves as chairman of the Game and as an advisor to the selection committee. The final team members will be announced February 19th.

The players participating in the 2004 Boys Game will join an elite list of alumni that includes current and past NBA superstars Michael Jordan (retired), Magic Johnson (retired), Kevin Garnett (Minnesota Timberwolves), LeBron James (Cleveland Cavaliers), Carmelo Anthony (Denver Nuggets), as well as Chris Duhon (Duke) and Taliek Brown (UConn), Josh Childress (Stanford) and Shannon Brown (Michigan State).

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The Girls Game also will be played at the Ford Center on Wednesday, March 31, and will precede the Boys Game with tip-off at 6:30 p.m. (EST). ESPN2 will air the Girls Game on Thursday, April 1 at 5 p.m. (EST). The head coaches for the Girls Game are Cathy Self-Morgan, head basketball coach at Duncanville High School in Duncanville, Texas, and Al Austin, head coach at Ribault High School in Jacksonville, Florida.

Although the Game is often referred to as the "best-known gathering of high school senior all-stars," the real purpose is to raise funds for Ronald McDonald House Charities®. A portion of the proceeds from the 2004 Games will benefit Ronald McDonald House Charities of Oklahoma. Previous beneficiaries of McDonald's All American Games include Sickle Cell Anemia Research, the United Negro College Fund and many other local children's charities. More than \$3 million has been raised since the game was first played in 1978. For more information about Ronald McDonald House Charities® log on to www.rmhc.org.

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