

**LOYOLA SACRED HEART HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE MONTANA BOYS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

**CHICAGO** (March 21, 2024) — In its 39<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation’s most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Reynolds Johnston** of **Loyola Sacred Heart High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade Montana Boys Basketball Player of the Year**. Johnston is the first Gatorade Montana Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Loyola Sacred Heart 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 Johnston as Montana’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.).

The 6-foot-6, 230-pound junior forward averaged 17.4 points and 8 rebounds per game this past season, leading the Rams (25-0) to their second consecutive Class B state championship. Johnston also averaged 3.1 assists per game and shot 36.5 percent from 3-point land. A two-time All-State selection entering this season, he recorded 22 points, 10 rebounds and six assists in Loyola Sacred Heart’s 69-54 state championship win over Fairview.

A National Honor Society member, Johnston has volunteered locally as part of annual food drives and also participates in his school’s Marketing Club. “I have not seen anyone better than him,” said Shea Bradshaw, head coach of Florence-Carlton High School. “His game is the complete package. He will have a successful college career.”

Johnston has maintained an A 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 leverages experts including coaches, scouts, media and others as sources to help evaluate and determine the state winners in each sport.

Johnston joins recent Gatorade Montana Boys Basketball Players of the Year Dougie Peoples (2022-23, Butte Central Catholic High School), Brayden Koch (2021-22, Capital High School), Drew Wyman (2020-21, Great Falls High School) and Rollie Worster (2019-20, Hellgate 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](http://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com) or follow us on social media on Facebook at [facebook.com/GatoradePOY](https://facebook.com/GatoradePOY), Instagram at [instagram.com/Gatorade](https://instagram.com/Gatorade) and Twitter at [twitter.com/Gatorade](https://twitter.com/Gatorade).

###