

INGLEWOOD HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE CALIFORNIA BOYS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (March 20, 2026) — In its 41st year celebrating the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced Jason Crowe, Jr. of Inglewood High School is the 2025-26 Gatorade California Boys Basketball Player of the Year.

Gatorade Player of the Year is the top honor in high school sports, celebrating the nation's best high school athletes for their excellence in sport, academics and community. The award recognizes Crowe as California's best high school boys basketball player, and he's also been selected as a finalist for the distinguished Gatorade National Boys Basketball Player of the Year award to be announced later this month. Crowe joins an elite legacy that spans professional athletes and coaches to CEOs, such as Jayson Tatum (2015-16, Chaminade College Preparatory School, MO), Cooper Flagg (2023-24, Montverde Academy, FL) and Cameron Boozier (2022-23 & 2024-25, Christopher Columbus High School, FL).

The 6-foot-4, 185-pound senior guard averaged 43.3 points, 5.8 assists, 4.3 rebounds and 3.5 steals this past season, leading the Sentinels (28-7) to the Southern Section Division 1A Tournament semifinals. Crowe scored 1,387 points in 32 games and concluded his prep basketball career with a state-record 4,718 points. A 2026 McDonald's All-American Game selection, he is a finalist for the Naismith Award and is ranked as the nation's No. 5 prospect in the Class of 2026 by 247Sports.com.

Crowe has volunteered locally with The Truth Funds Christmas and Thanksgiving giveaways along with his godfather, Paul Pierce. He has also donated his time as a youth basketball camp counselor. "Jason Crowe is simply one of the greatest high school scorers ever," said Matt McKay, Pro Insight Founder & CEO. "What else is there to say?"

Crowe has maintained a weighted 3.30 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a written letter of athletic aid to play basketball at the University of Missouri this fall.

The [Gatorade Player of the Year](#) program annually recognizes one state winner from each of the 50 states and Washington D.C., in 12 different sports: football, girls volleyball, boys and girls cross country, boys and girls basketball, baseball, softball, boys and girls soccer, and boys and girls track & field. In total, 610 high school athletes are honored each year. From the pool of state winners, one national winner is selected in each of the 12 sports. 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 winners in each sport.

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, the Gatorade Player of the Year program has provided more than \$6.4 million in grants to winners across more than 2,200 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 Instagram at [instagram.com/Gatorade](https://www.instagram.com/Gatorade), Facebook at [facebook.com/GatoradePOY](https://www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY) and X(Twitter) at x.com/Gatorade.

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