

MADISON CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE KENTUCKY 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 Jake Feldhaus of Madison Central High School is the 2025-26 Gatorade Kentucky 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 Feldhaus as Kentucky’s best high school boys basketball player, and he 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 Boozer (2022-23 & 2024-25, Christopher Columbus High School, FL).

The 6-foot-8, 220-pound senior forward led the Indians to a 30-4 record and the semifinals of the 11th Region tournament this past season. Feldhaus averaged 20.7 points, 13 rebounds, 2.5 assists and 1.8 blocks while shooting 57.6 percent from the floor. The 11th Region Player of the Year, he also recorded 30 double-doubles.

Feldhaus has volunteered locally at the annual Track for Packs 5K run, which raises money for Madison Central’s school backpack program. He has also donated his time to the Tim Tebow Foundation’s “Night to Shine” event as well as a prom for special needs students. “He’s a great rebounder and dominant inside,” said Steve Page, Great Crossing High School head coach. “He plays harder than most kids and can also shoot the 3.”

Feldhaus has maintained a weighted 3.89 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a written letter of athletic aid to play basketball at Belmont University 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.

###