

PRINCIPIA SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE MISSOURI 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 Quentin Coleman of Principia School is the 2025-26 Gatorade Missouri 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 Coleman as Missouri’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-4, 175-pound senior guard led the Panthers to a 29-2 record and their second consecutive state championship this past season, scoring 50 points in the team’s win in the state final. Coleman averaged 23.1 points 64.9 percent shooting from the field and added 6.1 rebounds, 3.9 assists and 2.7 steals per game for a Principia School team that MaxPreps ranked fourth nationally at the time of his selection. He led his club team Bradley Beal Elite to the Nike EYBL 17U Peach Jam championship last summer. He’s ranked as the nation’s No. 20 prospect in the Class of 2026 by Rivals/On3.

Coleman has volunteered locally as a youth basketball instructor and on behalf of the Principia School’s Giving Day, which is an annual school fundraising event. “Coleman is one of the most improved players in the country,” said Matt McKay, CEO and founder of Pro Insight. “He has clearly put in the work to round out his game in preparation for the next level. Beyond that, he’s one of the fiercest competitors you’ll encounter.”

Coleman maintains a 3.42 GPA in the classroom. He remains undecided on his collegiate destination after reopening his recruitment in early March.

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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