

## THE CALHOUN SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE® ALABAMA BOYS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

**CHICAGO** (March 26, 2020) — In its 35<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, today announced **JerDarrian Davison of The Calhoun School** as its **2019-20 Gatorade Alabama Boys Basketball Player of the Year**. Davison is the first Gatorade Alabama Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from The Calhoun School.

The award, which recognizes not only outstanding athletic excellence, but also high standards of academic achievement and exemplary character demonstrated on and off the field, distinguishes Davison as Alabama's best high school boys basketball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Boys Basketball Player of the Year award, Davison joins an elite alumni association of past state boys basketball award winners, including Karl-Anthony Towns (2012-13 & 2013-14, St. Joseph High School, N.J.), Dwight Howard (2003-04, Southwest Atlanta Christian Academy, Ga.), Chris Bosh (2001-02, Lincoln High School, Texas), Paul Pierce (1994-95, Inglewood High School, Calif.), Chauncey Billups (1993-94 & 1994-95, George Washington High School, Colo.) and Jason Kidd (1991-92, St. Joseph Notre Dame High School, Calif.).

The 6-foot-3, 182-pound junior guard led the Tigers to a 21-12 record and the Class 2A state championship this past season. Davison averaged 33.4 points, 12.0 rebounds, 6.0 steals, 5.0 assists and 4.0 blocks per game, and hit a 3-pointer at the buzzer to win the state final against Barbour County High. The 2018-19 Montgomery Metro Player of the Year, he was a Class 2A First Team All-State selection as a sophomore.

Davison has volunteered locally at the YMCA of Greater Montgomery, and he has donated his time to multiple community service initiatives through his church. "JD carried his team all season," said LaKenya Knight, head coach of Jefferson Davis High. "When his team took the floor, they got everyone's best effort because of him. He was solid and he never folded. He was their Mr. Everything."

Davison has maintained a B average in the classroom. He will begin his senior year of high school this fall.

Davison joins Gatorade Alabama Boys Basketball Players of the Year Trendon Watford (2018-19 & 2017-18, Mountain Brook High School), John Petty (2016-17 & 2015-16, Jemison High School) and Josh Langford (2014-15, Madison Academy) among the state's list of former award winners.

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 work with top sport-specific experts and a media advisory board of accomplished, veteran prep sports journalists to determine the state winners in each sport.

The 2019-2020 Gatorade National Boys Basketball Player of the Year announcement has been temporarily postponed due to the Coronavirus pandemic. To ensure the safety of everyone involved, The Gatorade Company will follow the guidance of experts and health officials as it determines the appropriate time to announce this year's winner.

As a part of Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Davison also has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national youth sports organization of his choosing. He is also eligible to submit an essay to win one of twelve \$10,000 spotlight grants for the organization of choice, which will be announced throughout the year.

Since the program's inception in 1985, Gatorade Player of the Year award recipients have won hundreds of professional and college championships, and many have also turned into pillars in their communities, becoming coaches, business owners and educators.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit [www.Gatorade.com/POY](http://www.Gatorade.com/POY), on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY](http://www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY) or follow us on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/Gatorade](http://www.twitter.com/Gatorade).

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