

## GONZAGA COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE® DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA 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 **Terrance Williams of Gonzaga College High School** as its **2019-20 Gatorade District of Columbia Boys Basketball Player of the Year**. Williams is the tenth Gatorade District of Columbia Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Gonzaga College High 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 Williams as District of Columbia's best high school boys basketball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Boys Basketball Player of the Year award, Williams 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-7, 220-pound senior forward led the Eagles to a 25-10 record and the DCSAA tournament championship this season. Williams averaged 17.9 points, 9.9 rebounds and 1.5 assists for Gonzaga, which also reached the Washington Catholic Athletic Conference Tournament semifinals. A three-time First Team All-WCAC selection, he concluded his prep basketball career with 2,154 points and 1,090 rebounds.

Williams has volunteered locally at a food bank and homeless shelter. "Terrance Williams has had one of the greatest high school careers in DC history," said Mike Jones, head coach of DeMatha Catholic High. "Scoring over 2,000 points, winning two WCAC titles, improving his game each season—there's no disputing his status as an all-time DC great."

Williams has maintained a 3.59 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a national letter of intent to play basketball on scholarship at the University of Michigan this fall.

Williams joins Gatorade District of Columbia Boys Basketball Players of the Year Casey Morsell (2018-19, St. John's College High School), Myles Dread (2017-18, Gonzaga College High School), Luka Garza (2016-17, Maret School), Chris Lykes (2015-16, Gonzaga College High School), and Bryant Crawford (2014-15, Gonzaga College High School) 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," Williams 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](https://www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY) or follow us on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/Gatorade](https://www.twitter.com/Gatorade).

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