

MORGAN PARK HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE® ILLINOIS BOYS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (March 26, 2020) — In its 35th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, today announced **Adam Miller of Morgan Park High School** as its **2019-20 Gatorade Illinois Boys Basketball Player of the Year**. Miller is the second Gatorade Illinois Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Morgan Park 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 Miller as Illinois' best high school boys basketball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Boys Basketball Player of the Year award, Miller 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 state's returning Gatorade Player of the Year, the 6-foot-4, 175-pound senior guard had led the Mustangs to a 21-9 record and a berth in the Class 3A sectional semifinals at the time of his selection. Miller averaged 23.9 points, 6.5 rebounds, 5.8 assists and 2.2 steals while connecting on 42.5 percent of his 3-points shots through 30 games. A Jordan Brand Classic Game selection, he entered the sectional tournament with 2,076 points in his prep basketball career.

Miller has volunteered locally with a Thanksgiving turkey give-away and as a youth basketball coach. "Adam is a very skilled basketball player," said Lou Adams, head coach of Orr High. "He has a high basketball IQ and can score in many different ways."

Miller has maintained a weighted 3.69 GPA in the classroom. He has made a verbal commitment to play basketball on scholarship at the University of Illinois this fall.

Two-time winner Miller joins Gatorade Illinois Boys Basketball Players of the Year E.J. Liddell (2017-18, Belleville West High School), Mark Smith (2016-17, Edwardsville High School), Charlie Moore (2015-16, Morgan Park High School), and Jalen Brunson (2014-15, Stevenson 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," Miller 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, on Facebook at www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY or follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/Gatorade.

###