

VANDEGRIFT HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE® TEXAS 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 **Greg Brown III of Vandegrift High School** as its **2019-20 Gatorade Texas Boys Basketball Player of the Year**. Brown III is the first Gatorade Texas Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Vandegrift 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 Brown III as Texas' best high school boys basketball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Boys Basketball Player of the Year award, Brown III 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-8, 200-pound senior forward averaged 26.1 points, 13.2 rebounds, 3.5 blocks and 2.1 assists per game this past season, leading the Vipers (33-3) to the Class 6A regional quarterfinals. Ranked as the nation's No. 9 recruit in the Class of 2020 by ESPN.com, Brown is a McDonald's All-American selection and a two-time First Team All-State honoree. He concluded his prep basketball career with 3,007 points and 1,493 rebounds.

Brown has volunteered locally with Feed My Starving Children and has donated his time to an elementary school literacy program. "Greg Brown is at another level," said Brad Ingram, head coach of Stephen F. Austin High. "He's long, has bounce and incredible range. He's the greatest high school talent I've faced in 31 years of high school coaching."

Brown has maintained a weighted 3.74 GPA in the classroom. He remains undecided upon a collegiate destination.

Brown III joins Gatorade Texas Boys Basketball Players of the Year R.J. Hampton (2018-19, Little Elm High School), Quentin Grimes (2017-18, The Woodlands College Park High School), Marcus Garrett (2016-17, Skyline High School), De'Aaron Fox (2015-16, Cypress Lakes High School), and Admon Gilder (2014-15, James Madison 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," Brown III 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.

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