COLONY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE ALASKA BOYS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 4, 2021) — In its 36th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced Patrick McMahon of Colony High School as its 2020-21 Gatorade Alaska Boys Basketball Player of the Year. McMahon is the third Gatorade Alaska Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Colony 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 McMahon as Alaska's best high school boys basketball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Boys Basketball Player of the Year award to be announced in June, McMahon joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Jayson Tatum (2015-16, Chaminade College Preparatory School, Mo.), Karl-Anthony Towns (2012-13 & 2013-14, St. Joseph High School, N.J.), Jabari Parker (2011-12, Simeon Career Academy, Ill.) and Dwight Howard (2003-04, Southwest Atlanta Christian Academy, Ga.).

The 6-foot-6, 190-pound senior guard led the Knights to a 13-2 record and the Class 4A semifinals this past season. McMahon averaged 27.3 points, 10.5 rebounds, 4.1 assists, 3.2 steals and 2.5 blocks per game. A two-time Class 4A Player of the Year, he is also a three-time First Team All-State honoree.

McMahon has volunteered locally on behalf of the Lighthouse Christian Fellowship. "Patrick McMahon is a three-level scorer, a willing passer and, through the years, has shown amazing growth," said Josh Muehlenkamp, head coach at West Anchorage High. "He can impact the game in multiple ways with his athleticism and willingness to work at both ends of the court."

McMahon has maintained a 3.25 in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on scholarship at Montana State University this fall.

The <u>Gatorade Player of the Year</u> 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 works with top sport-specific experts and a media advisory board of accomplished, veteran prep sports journalists to determine the state winners in each sport.

McMahon joins recent Gatorade Alaska Boys Basketball Players of the Year Isaiah Moses (2019-20, Dimond High School), Sullivan Menard (2018-19, Colony High School), Tobin Karlberg (2017-18, Grace Christian School), and Austin White (2016-17, Ninilchik School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Through Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," McMahon has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national youth sports organization of their choosing. McMahon is also eligible to submit a 30-second video explaining why the organization they chose is deserving of one of twelve \$10,000 spotlight grants, which will be announced throughout the year. To date, Gatorade Player of the Year winners' grants have totaled more than \$2.7 million across 1,117 organizations.

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 playeroftheyear.gatorade.com, on Facebook at facebook.com/GatoradePOY or follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/Gatorade.