

**MARTINSBURG HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE WEST VIRGINIA FOOTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (December 7, 2021) — In its 37th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Hudson Clement of Martinsburg High School** is the **2021-22 Gatorade West Virginia Football Player of the Year**. Clement is the fifth Gatorade West Virginia Football Player of the Year to be chosen from Martinsburg 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 Clement as West Virginia's best high school football player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Football Player of the Year award to be announced in December, Clement joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners, including Emmitt Smith (1986-87, Escambia High School, Fla.), Matthew Stafford (2005-06, Highland Park High School, Texas) and Christian McCaffrey (2012-13 & 2013-14, Valor Christian High School, Colo.).

The 6-foot-1, 184-pound senior wide receiver and defensive back led the Bulldogs to a 13-1 record and the Class AAA state championship this past season. Clement tied a state title game record with eight touchdowns—four receiving and four rushing—in Martinsburg's 62-21 win over Huntington High. For the season, Clement totaled 88 receptions for 1,711 yards and 23 touchdowns. Defensively through 13 games, he had compiled 65 tackles, four interceptions and returned one of his three fumble recoveries for a score.

Clement has volunteered locally as part of community beautification projects, and he has donated his time to literacy outreach programs at local elementary schools. "Hudson is an exceptional athlete who has played five or more positions for us," said Britt Sherman, head coach of Martinsburg High School. "He has a very high football IQ and the best hands we've put on the field in a decade or more."

Clement has maintained a 3.57 GPA in the classroom. He remains undecided upon a collegiate destination.

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 leverages experts including coaches, scouts, media and others as sources to help evaluate and determine the state winners in each sport.

Clement joins recent Gatorade West Virginia Football Players of the Year Blake Hartman (2020-21, Musselman High School), JJ Roberts (2019-20, Cabell Midland High School), Graeson Malashevich (2018-19, Spring Valley High School), and Tyson Bagent (2017-18, Martinsburg High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Gatorade has a long-standing history of serving athlete communities and understands how sports instill valuable lifelong skills on and off the field. Through Gatorade's "Play it Forward" platform, Clement has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national organization of their choosing that helps young athletes realize the benefits of playing sports. Clement is also eligible to submit a short 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 \$3.5 million across more than 1,300 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 or follow us on social media on Facebook at facebook.com/GatoradePOY, Instagram at instagram.com/Gatorade and Twitter at twitter.com/Gatorade.