

**MANUAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE COLORADO BOYS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

**CHICAGO** (March 16, 2022) — In its 37<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Jordan Reed of Manual High School** is the **2021-22 Gatorade Colorado Boys Basketball Player of the Year**. Reed is the fourth Gatorade Colorado Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Manual 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 court, distinguishes Reed as Colorado'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 March, Reed 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-4, 205-pound senior guard averaged 29.1 points and 8.8 rebounds per game this past season, leading the Thunderbolts (16-7) to the Class 3A state quarterfinals. Reed also compiled 5.6 assists and 1.4 steals per game, recording five scoring lines of 40 points or more including a season-high 53 points in a 93-78 victory over Peak to Peak Charter School in January. He was a Class 3A First Team All-State selection as a junior.

Reed has volunteered locally as a youth basketball coach. "You could guard Jordan with two players and he would still score on you," said Abram Ziemer, head coach of Faith Christian Academy. "While he's an elite scorer, he's also an incredible passer. He might only be beginning to tap into his potential as well."

Reed has maintained a B average 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.

Reed joins recent Gatorade Colorado Boys Basketball Players of the Year Julian Hammond III (2020-21, Cherry Creek High School), Dominique Clifford (2019-20, The Vanguard School), Kenny Foster (2018-19, Smoky Hill High School), and Sam Masten (2017-18, Rock Canyon 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 court. Through Gatorade's "Play it Forward" platform, Reed 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. Reed 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](http://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com) or follow us on social media on Facebook at [facebook.com/GatoradePOY](https://facebook.com/GatoradePOY), Instagram at [instagram.com/Gatorade](https://instagram.com/Gatorade) and Twitter at [twitter.com/Gatorade](https://twitter.com/Gatorade).

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