

**LAPWAI HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE IDAHO BOYS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (March 16, 2022) — In its 37th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Titus Yearout** of **Lapwai High School** is the **2021-22 Gatorade Idaho Boys Basketball Player of the Year**. Yearout is the first Gatorade Idaho Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Lapwai 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 Yearout as Idaho'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, Yearout 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-2, 180-pound senior guard led the Wildcats to a 27-0 season and their second straight Class A Division I state championship. He averaged 15.5 points, 5 rebounds, 7 assists and 2 steals on the season and surpassed 2,000 career points on his way to becoming the school's all-time leading scorer with 2,039 points.

The first player to sign with a Division I college program directly out of Lapwai High, Yearout has volunteered locally at a Christmas toy, coat and food drive. He also has donated his time assisting the elderly, and he and his family donate clothing and gifts to the Tiny Tots Learning Center at the Lapwai Boys & Girls Club. "Titus is an outstanding player, but an even better teammate and person," said Kelly Carlstrom, the head coach at Troy High School. "I have coached against Titus the last four years, and he's matured each year. During his freshman through junior seasons, he was the main scoring threat for his team. This year, he became more of a facilitator and leader of his team as well as an incredible defender."

Yearout has maintained a 3.78 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on scholarship at the University of Idaho this fall.

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.

Yearout joins recent Gatorade Idaho Boys Basketball Players of the Year Brody Rowbury (2020-21, Meridian High School), Austin Bolt (2019-20, Borah High School), Michael Ure (2018-19, Ririe High School), and Jake Pfennigs (2017-18, Post Falls 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, Yearout 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. Yearout 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.

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