

**EDMOND MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE OKLAHOMA 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 **Jai'Vion "JV" Seat** of **Edmond Memorial High School** is the **2021-22 Gatorade Oklahoma Boys Basketball Player of the Year**. Seat is the first Gatorade Oklahoma Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Edmond Memorial 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 Seat as Oklahoma'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, Seat 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-3, 240-pound senior guard/forward led the Bulldogs to a 22-5 record and the quarterfinals of the 6A state tournament. Seat averaged 19.4 points, 5.9 rebounds and 2.2 assists per game, shooting 62 percent from conventional field goal range, 47 percent from beyond the arc and 71 percent at the free throw line, for a true shooting percentage of 65.4. Ranked No. 6 in Oklahoma's Class of 2022 by PrepHoops, Seat was named the Central Oklahoma Athletic Conference MVP as well as the conference's Offensive POY. He played all four years at Edmond Memorial and concluded his career with 1,330 career points.

Seat, who was homeless for two years before being adopted by the Seat family, has volunteered locally as the lead counselor for 43 boys at Positive Tomorrows, an Oklahoma City organization that assists homeless families with their education to create a path forward in success. He has donated his time to multiple philanthropic efforts at Edmond Memorial High School, helping raise more than \$1 million during his four years at the school. An instructor/coach at youth basketball camps in Edmond throughout his high school career, he has also packed care boxes to support Blue Star Mothers of Edmond. "In my view, JV is by far the most difficult player in the state to prepare from a defensive standpoint because of his ability to score in the post and hit from beyond the arc," said Edmond Santa Fe High School head coach Troy Lallemand. "I coached JV for a year, when I was an assistant at Memorial and I coached him in AAU. He's truly a great kid."

Seat has maintained a 3.01 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on scholarship at the Abilene Christian University 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.

Seat joins recent Gatorade Oklahoma Boys Basketball Players of the Year Trey Alexander (2020-21, Heritage Hall), Bryce Thompson (2019-20 & 2018-19, Booker T. Washington High School), and Mason Harrell (2017-18, Carl Albert 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, Seat 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. Seat 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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