FARMINGTON HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE UTAH 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 **Collin Chandler** of **Farmington High School** is the **2021-22 Gatorade Utah Boys Basketball Player of the Year**. Chandler is the first Gatorade Utah Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Farmington 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 Chandler as Utah'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, Chandler 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-5, 180-pound senior guard led the Phoenix to a 14-10 record and the second round of the Class 6A state tournament this past season. Chandler averaged 21.7 points, 4.3 rebounds, 2.8 assists and 1.7 steals per game. A three-time First Team All-State honoree, he was selected for the All-Academic Basketball All-America Game and is ranked as the nation's No. 26 prospect in the Class of 2022 by ESPN.

Chandler has helped provide meals for needy families and has volunteered locally on behalf of a basketball program for special needs children. "Chandler demonstrates an all-around game and he's a legitimate three-level scorer," said Paul Biancardi of ESPN Basketball. "He can make shots from both inside and outside the arc, his aggressive drive game creates a lot of fouls and he's capable of finishing with both vertical bounce and body control."

Chandler has maintained a 3.74 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on scholarship at Brigham Young 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 leverages experts including coaches, scouts, media and others as sources to help evaluate and determine the state winners in each sport.

Chandler joins recent Gatorade Utah Boys Basketball Players of the Year Nolan Hickman (2020-21, Wasatch Academy), Dallin Hall (2019-20, Fremont High School), and Rylan Jones (2018-19 & 2017-18, Olympus 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, Chandler 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. Chandler 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.