

**OAK HILL ACADEMY STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE VIRGINIA 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 **Chris Livingston** of **Oak Hill Academy** is the **2021-22 Gatorade Virginia Boys Basketball Player of the Year**. Livingston is the fifteenth Gatorade Virginia Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Oak Hill Academy.

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 Livingston as Virginia’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, Livingston 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 state’s returning Gatorade Player of the Year, the 6-foot-7, 210-pound senior forward and guard had led the Warriors to a 33-7 record and a berth in the Geico Nationals Tournament at the time of his selection. Livingston averaged 18.2 points, 9.1 rebounds, 3.9 assists, 1.9 steals and 1.4 blocks per game through 40 games. The 2020-21 Gatorade Ohio Boys Basketball Player of the Year at Buchtel High School, Livingston is a McDonald’s All-American Game selection this season. He is ranked as the nation’s No. 12 recruit in the Class of 2022 by ESPN.com.

Livingston has volunteered locally as a youth basketball coach. “Chris is the ultimate winner,” said Luke Barnwell, head coach of Sunrise Christian (Kan.) Academy. “He does everything extremely well. He’s hard to cover because of his offensive versatility while also being unselfish.”

Livingston has maintained a 3.29 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a national letter of intent to play basketball on scholarship at the University of Kentucky 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.

Two-time winner Livingston joins recent Gatorade Virginia Boys Basketball Players of the Year Trevor Keels (2020-21, Paul VI Catholic High School), Jeremy Roach (2019-20, Paul VI Catholic High School), Cole Anthony (2018-19, Oak Hill Academy), and Keldon Johnson (2017-18, Oak Hill Academy), 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, Livingston 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. Livingston 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.

###