

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE IDAHO FOOTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (December 6, 2024) — In its 40th year of honoring the nation’s most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Jax Tanner** of **Rocky Mountain High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade Idaho Football Player of the Year**. Tanner is the first Gatorade Idaho Football Player of the Year to be chosen from Rocky Mountain High School.

Gatorade Player of the Year is the top honor in high school sports, celebrating the nation’s best high school athletes for their success on the field, in the classroom and in the community. The award distinguishes Tanner as Idaho’s best high school football player, and he joins an impressive group of alumni that spans CEOs, coaches and star athletes such as Emmitt Smith (1986-87, Escambia High School, Fl.), Peyton Manning (1993-94, Isidore Newman School, La.) and DJ Lagway (2023-24, Willis High School, Texas).

The 6-foot-3, 280-pound junior lineman recorded 115 pancake blocks and surrendered zero sacks this past season, leading the Grizzlies (10-1) to the Class 6A semifinals. Tanner was the anchor of the line for an offense which averaged 11.3 yards per passing attempt. A 2023 All-State selection, he’s ranked as the state’s No. 1 recruit in the Class of 2026 by Prep RedZone and, barring injury, he will become the only four-year starter in school history next fall.

The Meridian Police Department’s Citizen of the Month in September, Tanner is a member of his school’s UNCOMMON group, a school affiliation that recognizes attendance, community service, humility, discipline and school pride. He has volunteered locally on behalf of elementary school carnivals and community clean-up events and has also donated his time to weekly service initiatives with his church youth group. “Jax is one of the most versatile offensive linemen I have coached against,” said Ian Smart, head coach of Timberline High School. “He is equal parts strong, athletic and physical. As you prepare to play that team, creating a plan to deal with Jax is at the top of the list. He will certainly become a major contributor when he arrives at the next level.”

Tanner has maintained a 3.58 GPA in the classroom. He will begin his senior year next fall.

The [Gatorade Player of the Year](#) program annually recognizes one winner in the District of Columbia and each of the 50 states across 12 different high school sports – 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.

Tanner joins recent Gatorade Idaho Football Players of the Year Peter Minnaert (2023-24, Bishop Kelly High School), Kenyon Sadiq (2022-23, Skyline High School), Colston Loveland (2021-22, Gooding High School) and Ben Ford (2020-21, Eagle High School), among the state’s list of former award winners.

As part of Gatorade’s commitment to breaking down barriers in sport, every Player of the Year also receives a grant to donate to a social impact partner. To date, the Gatorade Player of the Year program has provided more than \$5.6 million in grants to winners across more than 2,000 organizations.

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 Instagram at [instagram.com/Gatorade](https://www.instagram.com/Gatorade), Facebook at [facebook.com/GatoradePOY](https://www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY) and X(Twitter) at x.com/Gatorade.

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