

**HOOVER HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE ALABAMA BOYS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (March 20, 2025)— In its 40th year of honoring the nation’s most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **DeWayne Brown** of **Hoover High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade Alabama Boys Basketball Player of the Year**. Brown is the first Gatorade Alabama Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Hoover 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 court, in the classroom and in the community. The award distinguishes Brown as Alabama’s best high school boys basketball player, and he joins an impressive group of alumni that spans CEOs, coaches and star athletes such as Karl-Anthony Towns (2012-13 & 2013-14, St. Joseph High School, N.J.), Jayson Tatum (2013-14, 2014-15 & 2015-16, Chaminade College Preparatory School, Mo.) and Cooper Flagg (2023-24, Montverde Academy, Fl.).

The 6-foot-9, 250-pound senior forward led the Buccaneers to a 35-0 record and a third straight Class 7A state championship this past season. Brown averaged 15.0 points, 10.5 rebounds, 2.9 blocks, 2.3 assists and 1.4 steals per game while connecting on 68.9 percent of his shots from the field (222-of-322). The 2024 Class 7A Player of the Year, he is a two-time Alabama Sportswriters Association Super All-State First Team selection. He concluded his prep basketball career with 1,814 points and 1,189 rebounds.

Brown has volunteered locally at the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Alabama and as a youth basketball coach. He has also donated his time as a peer mentor at Hoover High School. “DeWayne Brown is a force in high school athletics,” said Obadiah Threadgill, head coach of Sparkman High School. “His team is built around him. They play through him. And he’s a proven winner.”

Brown has maintained a 3.52 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a written letter of athletic aid to play basketball at the University of Tennessee this 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.

Brown joins recent Gatorade Alabama Boys Basketball Players of the Year Caleb Holt (2023-24, Buckhorn High School), Labaron Philon (2022-23, Baker High School) and Barry Dunning (2021-22 & 2020-21, McGill-Toolen Catholic 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.