

Justin Robinson Selected To Compete At USATF Grand Prix



[Justin Robinson](#)'s eyes are still firmly on the prize.

This weekend, the 19-year-old sprinter and recent **Hazelwood West (MO) High School graduate** will race at the USATF Grand Prix, a World Athletics Continental Tour Gold series event as part of the Oregon Relays at the new Hayward Field in Eugene.

Robinson will reportedly compete against the likes of Michael Norman and Rai Benjamin.

It will all be part of the larger mission: Robinson continues to chase a spot on the United States Olympic Team, either in the open 400m or on a relay, as he readies for the U.S. Olympic Trials in June at the same venue.

Fortunately for Robinson, he'll be finely-tuned.

On April 10, he raced for just the second time since August, competing at the Miramar Invitational in Florida where he came away with an impressive win at 400 meters in 45.23 seconds.

That performance, which followed his 2020 season-ending 44.91 in August (below) at an American Track League event in Georgia -- a performance that finished the year as the No. 1 outdoor time in the world -- stands as the eighth-best time in the world right now.



Hazelwood Central Student Is National Merit Finalist

Jaden, (above photo) a Central High School senior, is a finalist for the 2021 National Merit Scholarship. More than \$1.5 million students entered the 2021 National Merit Scholarship Program.

Merit Scholar designees are selected on the basis of their skills, accomplishments, and potential for success in rigorous college studies. 2021 National Merit Scholarship winners will be announced in four nationwide news releases beginning this month and concluding in July.

Hazelwood Central Football Ends Spring 2021 With A 4-1 Record

By Jim Wieners

Having to move all High School Fall Sports, including Football, from Fall (2020) to Spring (2021) due to COVID-19, Hazelwood Central completed a brief five-week season with a record of 4-1.

Only Lutheran North, 5-1, had a better record among North County High Schools and the Crusaders played last Fall, losing only to eventual Class Three State Champion Blair Oaks. Hazelwood Central lost their only game to McCluer (32-27 on March 27) and the Hawks are the only team to defeat 4-1 Pattonville (28-21 on April 1).

Hazelwood Central ended their season April 10 with a 39-0 home shut out of Hazelwood West. Junior quarterback Bryson Brown threw for 627 yards and eight touchdowns including two against Hazelwood West to junior wide receiver Armani Turner, with 361 reception yards and six touchdowns. Junior running back Lionel Banks ran for 547 yards and eight touchdowns including 97 yards and a touchdown against West while junior running back Jamarion Price, who ran for 355 yards and six touchdowns, scored twice on the ground for the Hawks against the Wildcats.

McCLUER had a late season change due to the cancellation of the April 10 home game against 0-3 McCluer North. Instead, the Comets went to Southern Illinois April 9 to visit Carterville after the Lions needed a replacement for Pinckneyville. Despite leading 18-0 after one quarter, the Comets lost the 2021 spring finale to the Lions 38-34, as McCluer finishes 3-2. Carterville senior Elijah Downan scored 32 points on 274 rushing yards, four touchdowns and four two-point

Junior quarterback Michael Hopkins threw for 1,119 yards and nine touchdowns to go along with only one interception including 371 yards and four touchdowns at Hazelwood Central. Hopkins also ran for 199 yard and four touchdowns. Junior wide receiver Kameron Gillespie led the Comets with 501 yards total offense and seven touchdowns. Gillespie scored three touchdowns in a Good Friday (April 2), 50-32 win at Ritenour and ran for two more scores, on 136 rushing yards at Carterville, Ill.

HAZELWOOD EAST saw their season end April 3 with a 3-1 record, losing only to Pattonville. Junior running back Armon Hill led the Spartans in scoring with 46 points including six touchdowns. Hill had 322 total yards including five touchdowns among 214 rushing yards. Junior quarterback Mekhi Holmes threw for 494 yards and four touchdowns and three of Holmes' touchdown passes are to sophomore wide receiver Zachary Hill. Senior wide receiver Jeremiah Dorsey, despite not scoring, led the Spartans in receiving yards with 167.

HAZELWOOD WEST, which only has 84 total yards on offense against Hazelwood Central, finishes 2021 with a 1-3 record following a 60-14 home loss April 17 against 2-2 Lift For Life Academy, a charter school in the St. Louis Souldard neighborhood. The highlight of the season for the Wildcats came on the day before Easter (April 3) in a 33-8 win at McCluer North as sophomore quarterback Darren Poroundle, throwing for 102 (out of 177)yards and three touchdowns. That includes two touchdown passes to junior two-way player Jayvion Brock, who also scored on a 40-yard interception return and was involved