

**ST. THOMAS MORE SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE CONNECTICUT BOYS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (March 21, 2024) — In its 39th year of honoring the nation’s most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Tyler Betsey** of **St. Thomas More School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade Connecticut Boys Basketball Player of the Year**. Betsey is the fourth Gatorade Connecticut Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from St. Thomas More School.

The award, which celebrates the nation’s top high school athletes for excellence on the court, in the classroom and in the community, distinguishes Betsey as Connecticut’s best high school boys basketball player. From CEOs and coaches to star athletes, Gatorade Player of the Year winners showcase the power of sport, touting an all-star group of alumni that includes LeBron James (2002-03 & 2001-02, St. Vincent – St. Mary High School, Ohio), Karl-Anthony Towns (2013-14 & 2012-13, St. Joseph High School, N.J.) and Jayson Tatum (2015-16, 2014-15 & 2013-14, Chaminade College Preparatory School, Mo.).

The state’s returning Gatorade Player of the Year, the 6-foot-8, 210-pound senior wing averaged 23.1 points and six rebounds per game this past season, leading the Chancellors (29-9) to a berth in the New England Preparatory School Athletic Council Class AAA championship game. Betsey also averaged 3.1 assists per game and sank 84 percent of his free throw attempts. A First Team NEPSAC Class AAA selection, Betsey is ranked as the nation’s No. 57 recruit in the Class of 2024 by ESPN.

Betsey has volunteered locally at a Hartford-area soup kitchen and by organizing a school backpack drive in his hometown of Windsor. “He’s the most improved player we saw this year,” said Jamie Sullivan, head coach of Worcester Academy. “Everything they did revolved around him and his game has really evolved. He can put the ball on the floor, drive and defend. He does a lot of different things well.”

Betsey has maintained an A average in the classroom. He has signed a national letter of intent to play basketball on scholarship at the University of Cincinnati 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 Betsey joins recent Gatorade Connecticut Boys Basketball Players of the Year Donovan Clingan (2021-22 & 2020-21, Bristol Central High School) and Micawber Etienne (2019-20, Suffield Academy), 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, Gatorade Player of the Year winners’ grants have totaled more than \$4.9 million across more than 1,600 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 Facebook at facebook.com/GatoradePOY, Instagram at instagram.com/Gatorade and Twitter at twitter.com/Gatorade.

###