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## **NORTHFIELD MOUNT HERMON SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE® MASSACHUSETTS BOYS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

**CHICAGO** (March 15, 2019) — In its 34<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company today announced **Chris Ledlum of Northfield Mount Hermon School** as its **2018-19 Gatorade Massachusetts Boys Basketball Player of the Year**. Ledlum is the first Gatorade Massachusetts Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Northfield Mount Hermon School.

The award, which recognizes not only outstanding athletic excellence, but also high standards of academic achievement and exemplary character demonstrated on and off the field, distinguishes Ledlum as Massachusetts' 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, Ledlum joins an elite alumni association of past state boys basketball award winners, including Karl-Anthony Towns (2012-13 & 2013-14, St. Joseph High School, N.J.), Dwight Howard (2003-04, Southwest Atlanta Christian Academy, Ga.), Chris Bosh (2001-02, Lincoln High School, Texas), Paul Pierce (1994-95, Inglewood High School, Calif.), Chauncey Billups (1993-94 & 1994-95, George Washington High School, Colo.) and Jason Kidd (1991-92, St. Joseph Notre Dame High School, Calif.).

The 6-foot-7, 230-pound senior forward led the Hoggers to a 32-6 record and the New England Prep School Athletic Council Class AAA Tournament championship this past season. Ledlum averaged 25.4 points, 8.1 rebounds, 1.9 assists and 1.1 steals per game. A transfer from St. Peter's High in New York City, he set Northfield Mount Hermon records for points in a game with 51, and points in a season with 939.

Ledlum has volunteered locally at Northfield Mount Hermon's Bolger Center for Early Childhood Education and as a youth basketball coach. "Chris is the most impactful player I have seen during my time at Cushing," said James Cormier, head coach of Cushing Academy. "He takes over games on a consistent basis against some of the best schools in the country."

Ledlum has maintained an A-minus average in the classroom. He has made a verbal commitment to attend Harvard University, where he will play basketball 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 work with top sport-specific experts and a media advisory board of accomplished, veteran prep sports journalists to determine the state winners in each sport.

Ledlum joins Gatorade Massachusetts Boys Basketball Players of the Year A.J. Reeves (2017-18, Brimmer & May School), Azar Swain (2016-17, The Rivers School), Eric Sellew (2015-16, Concord-Carlisle High School), and Guilien Smith (2014-15, Catholic Memorial High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a part of Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Ledlum also has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national youth sports organization of his choosing. He is also eligible to submit an essay to win one of twelve \$10,000 spotlight grants for the organization of choice, which will be announced throughout the year.

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 [www.Gatorade.com/POY](http://www.Gatorade.com/POY), on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY](https://www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY) or follow us on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/Gatorade](https://www.twitter.com/Gatorade).

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