

**DANIEL HAND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE CONNECTICUT BOYS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 11, 2021) — In its 36th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced Scott Testori of Daniel Hand High School as its 2020-21 Gatorade Connecticut Boys Soccer Player of the Year. Testori is the first Gatorade Connecticut Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Daniel Hand High 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 Testori as Connecticut's best high school boys soccer player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Boys Soccer Player of the Year award to be announced in June, Testori joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Alexi Lalas (1987-88, Cranbrook High School, Mich.), Steve Cherundolo (1996-97, Mt. Carmel High School, Calif.), Abby Wambach (1997-98, Our Lady of Mercy School of Young Women, N.Y.), Heather O'Reilly (2001-02 & 2002-03, East Brunswick High School, N.J.), Matt Besler (2004-05, Blue Valley West High School, Kans.), Jack Harrison (2013-14, Berkshire High School, Mass.) and Mallory Pugh (2014-15, Mountain Vista High School, Colo.).

The 6-foot-3, 170-pound senior forward led the Tigers to an 11-0 record this past season. Testori scored 28 goals and passed for eight assists, recording seven hat tricks in 11 games. The United Soccer Coaches 2020 National High School Player of the Year, Testori is a two-time USC All-American selection and a two-time Connecticut Soccer Coaches Association Player of the Year. A three-time state champion, he concluded his prep soccer career with a school-record 86 goals along with 32 assists.

Testori has volunteered locally as part of a fundraising campaign to benefit breast cancer research, and he has donated his time with his local TOPSoccer program. "Scott was a truly dynamic player," said Curtis Gullette, head coach of Guilford High. "He was the main player we needed to game plan for. We tried different strategies over the four years. If you forgot about Scott for even one sequence, he would make you pay for it."

Testori has maintained a weighted 4.22 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on scholarship at the University of Connecticut 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 works with top sport-specific experts and a media advisory board of accomplished, veteran prep sports journalists to determine the state winners in each sport.

Testori joins recent Gatorade Connecticut Boys Soccer Players of the Year Sammed Bawa (2019-20, Taft School), Michael Suski (2018-19 & 2017-18, The Loomis Chaffee School), and Umar Farouk Osman (2016-17, The Hotchkiss School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Through Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Testori has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national youth sports organization of their choosing. Testori is also eligible to submit a 30-second video explaining why the organization they chose is deserving of one of twelve \$10,000 spotlight grants, which will be announced throughout the year. To date, Gatorade Player of the Year winners' grants have totaled more than \$2.7 million across 1,117 organizations.

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 playeroftheyear.gatorade.com, on Facebook at facebook.com/GatoradePOY or follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/Gatorade.

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