

**MOUNT SAINT JOSEPH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE MARYLAND 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 Tyquan Stroud of Mount Saint Joseph High School as its 2020-21 Gatorade Maryland Boys Soccer Player of the Year. Stroud is the first Gatorade Maryland Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Mount Saint Joseph 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 Stroud as Maryland'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, Stroud 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 5-foot-10, 170-pound senior midfielder led the Gaels to an 8-0 record during this past pandemic-abbreviated season. Stroud scored four goals and passed for five assists. An All-Catholic League selection, Stroud is a two-time MIAA 'A' Conference First Team honoree. He concluded his prep soccer career with 24 goals and 33 assists.

Stroud has volunteered locally at a homeless shelter and food bank. "Ty ran the show [for Mount St. Joseph] from his central role," said Rich Zinkand, head coach of Calvert Hall. "He is a versatile player that can play either up top or in the midfield. He can help in different roles."

Stroud has maintained a B-plus average in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on scholarship at Temple University 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.

Stroud joins recent Gatorade Maryland Boys Soccer Players of the Year Ben Bender (2019-20, Calvert Hall College High School), Daniel Diaz-Bonilla (2018-19, The Heights School), Justin Gielen (2017-18, DeMatha Catholic High School), and Nick Richardson (2016-17, Archbishop Curley High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Through Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Stroud has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national youth sports organization of their choosing. Stroud 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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