

**ST. JOHN VIANNEY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE NEW JERSEY GIRLS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

**CHICAGO** (March 9, 2022) — In its 37<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Madison St. Rose** of **St. John Vianney High School** is the **2021-22 Gatorade New Jersey Girls Basketball Player of the Year**. St. Rose is the second Gatorade New Jersey Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from St. John Vianney 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 court, distinguishes St. Rose as New Jersey's best high school girls basketball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Girls Basketball Player of the Year award to be announced in March, St. Rose joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Skylar Diggins-Smith (2008-09, Washington High School, Ind.), Nneka Ogwumike (2007-08, CyFair High School, Texas), Maya Moore (2006-07, Collins Hill High School, Ga.), Candace Parker (2002-03 & 2003-04, Naperville Central High School, Ill.), and Lisa Leslie (1989-90, Morningside High School, Calif.).

The 5-foot-10 senior guard had led the Lancers to a 25-1 record and the quarterfinals of the Non-Public A South tournament at the time of her selection. St. Rose averaged 22.0 points, 4.7 rebounds, 3.5 steals and 2.6 assists through 26 games. The NJ.com Player of the Year, she is a three-time First Team All-State selection.

A student mentor in her school, St. Rose has raised funds for breast cancer awareness and has volunteered locally on behalf of youth basketball programs as well as at a home for veterans. "Maddy St. Rose is easily the best player we've seen this season," said Nick Russo, head coach at Colts Neck High School. "She can score in so many different ways and she's a great ball-handler and passer as well. She's a very unselfish player who knows when to take the game over."

St. Rose has maintained a weighted 4.12 GPA in the classroom. She will attend Princeton University this fall, where she will play basketball.

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.

St. Rose joins recent Gatorade New Jersey Girls Basketball Players of the Year Destiny Adams (2020-21, Manchester Township High School), Kylee Watson (2019-20, Mainland Regional High School), Diamond Miller (2018-19, Franklin High School), and Dara Mabrey (2017-18, Manasquan High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Gatorade has a long-standing history of serving athlete communities and understands how sports instill valuable lifelong skills on and off the court. Through Gatorade's "Play it Forward" platform, St. Rose has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national organization of their choosing that helps young athletes realize the benefits of playing sports. St. Rose is also eligible to submit a short 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 \$3.5 million across more than 1,300 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](http://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com) or follow us on social media on Facebook at [facebook.com/GatoradePOY](https://facebook.com/GatoradePOY), Instagram at [instagram.com/Gatorade](https://instagram.com/Gatorade) and Twitter at [twitter.com/Gatorade](https://twitter.com/Gatorade).

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