

**SUSSEX TECH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE DELAWARE BOYS TRACK & FIELD PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

**CHICAGO** (June 29, 2022) — In its 37<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Yougendy Mauricette** of **Sussex Tech High School** is the **2021-22 Gatorade Delaware Boys Track & Field Player of the Year**. Mauricette is the first Gatorade Delaware Boys Track & Field Player of the Year to be chosen from Sussex Tech 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 Mauricette as Delaware's best high school boys track & field athlete. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Boys Track & Field Player of the Year award to be announced in July, Mauricette joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Lolo Jones (1997-98, Roosevelt High School, Iowa), Allyson Felix (2002-03, Los Angeles Baptist High School, Calif.), Robert Griffin III (2006-07, Copperas Cove High School, Texas), Grant Fisher (2014-15 & 2013-14, Grand Blanc High School, Mich.) and Candace Hill (2014-15, Rockdale County High School, Ga.).

The 6-foot-3, 135-pound junior won four individual events at the Division 1 state meet this past season. Mauricette won the 110-meter high hurdles in 14.35 seconds, took the 300-meter intermediate hurdles in 38.46, captured the long jump with a leap of 23 feet, 3.5 inches and broke the tape in the 200 with a time of 21.84. He also won both hurdle events at the state Meet of Champions, and won a national title in the 400 hurdles at the New Balance Nationals Outdoor with a time of 51.31, which ranked as the nation's No. 1 performance among prep competitors in 2022.

Mauricette has volunteered locally on behalf of his church's youth group and a youth track program. "Yougendy is a great athlete and an excellent young man," said Sussex Tech coach Kani Kane. "His track accomplishments will open doors for him, and his work habits, character and drive will be what makes him successful."

Mauricette has maintained an A average in the classroom. He will begin his senior year of high school 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.

Mauricette joins recent Gatorade Delaware Boys Track & Field Players of the Year Zyaire Nuriddin (2020-21, Howard High School of Technology), Brahmir Vick (2019-20 & 2018-19, Middletown High School), and Connor Nisbet (2017-18, Wilmington Friends 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 field. Through Gatorade's "Play it Forward" platform, Mauricette 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. Mauricette 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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