

**DEMATHA CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE MARYLAND FOOTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (January 6, 2023) — In its 38th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Jason Moore** of **DeMatha Catholic High School** is the **2022-23 Gatorade Maryland Football Player of the Year**. Moore is the third Gatorade Maryland Football Player of the Year to be chosen from DeMatha Catholic 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 Moore as Maryland's best high school football player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Football Player of the Year award to be announced in January, Moore joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Trevor Lawrence (2018-19 & 2016-17, Cartersville High School, Ga.), Matthew Stafford (2005-06, Highland Park High School, Texas) and Emmitt Smith (1986-87, Escambia High School, Fla.).

The 6-foot-6, 265-pound senior defensive lineman recorded 96 tackles and 13 sacks this past season, leading the Stags (10-2) to the Washington Catholic Athletic Conference Upper Division Tournament championship game. Moore also had 18 tackles for a loss, 16 quarterback hurries, two forced fumbles and an interception, leading a defense that allowed just 5.4 points per game. The brother of Justin Moore, the state's 2018-19 Gatorade Boys Basketball Player of the Year, he is ranked as the nation's No. 57 recruit in the Class of 2023 by Rivals.com.

Moore has volunteered locally as part of multiple community service initiatives through the Community Chest Service Center. "Jason is a dominant force and really anchored their defensive line, which was the strength of their team," said Andy Stefanelli, head coach of Our Lady of Good Counsel High School. "He is long and rangy and can cover a lot of ground. He was a player who needed to be accounted for at all times."

Moore has maintained a B average in the classroom. At the time of his selection, he'd made a verbal commitment to play football on scholarship at The Ohio State 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 leverages experts including coaches, scouts, media and others as sources to help evaluate and determine the state winners in each sport.

Moore joins recent Gatorade Maryland Football Players of the Year Derrick Moore (2021-22, St. Frances Academy), Demeioun Robinson (2020-21, Quince Orchard High School), Blake Corum (2019-20, St. Frances Academy), and Bryan Bresee (2018-19, Damascus High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Being a Gatorade Player of the Year means paying it forward for the next generation. Through Gatorade's Play it Forward initiative, every Player of the Year receives a grant to give to one of Gatorade's social impact partners, supporting Gatorade's ambition to fuel the future of sport. To date, Gatorade Player of the Year winners' grants have totaled more than \$3.5 million across more than 1,300 organizations.

For nearly 40 years, Gatorade has honored high school athletes at the top of their game as teammates, supporting their communities and achieving academic success. From CEOs and coaches to star athletes and community leaders, Gatorade Player of the Year winners showcase the power of sport.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit playeroftheyear.gatorade.com or follow us on social media on Facebook at facebook.com/GatoradePOY, Instagram at instagram.com/Gatorade and Twitter at twitter.com/Gatorade.

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