

**MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE MICHIGAN FOOTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

**CHICAGO** (January 6, 2023) — In its 38<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation’s best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Dante Moore** of **Martin Luther King Jr. Senior High School** is the **2022-23 Gatorade Michigan Football Player of the Year**. Moore is the third Gatorade Michigan Football Player of the Year to be chosen from Martin Luther King Jr. Senior 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 Michigan’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-2, 210-pound senior quarterback led the Crusaders to a 10-3 record and the Division 3 state championship this past season. Moore passed for 2,392 yards and 32 touchdowns against just three interceptions while rushing for another 282 yards and five scores. He fired four TD passes in King’s 56-27 win over Muskegon High School in the state final. Ranked as the nation’s No. 2 recruit in the Class of 2023 by 247Sports.com, he concluded his prep football career with 9,862 yards and 130 touchdowns through the air.

Moore has volunteered locally on landscaping projects for neglected homes in Detroit, and he has donated his time as a youth quarterback coach and mentor. “Dante is a phenomenal leader and competitor,” said Ty Spencer, head coach of Martin Luther King Jr. Senior High School. “He is always where he’s supposed to be and communicates well. He is a hard worker and loves to get extra work in with his teammates.”

Moore has maintained a weighted 3.74 GPA in the classroom. At the time of his selection, he’d made a verbal commitment to play football on scholarship at UCLA 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 Michigan Football Players of the Year Josh Burnham (2021-22, Traverse City Central High School), Donovan Edwards (2020-21, West Bloomfield High School), Cameron Martinez (2019-20, Muskegon High School), and Dequan Finn (2018-19, Martin Luther King Jr. Senior 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](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).