

**ST. ALBANS SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BOYS CROSS COUNTRY PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (January 30, 2023) — In its 38th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Pierre Attiogbe** of **St. Albans School** is the **2022-23 Gatorade District of Columbia Boys Cross Country Player of the Year**. Attiogbe is the fifth Gatorade District of Columbia Boys Cross Country Player of the Year to be chosen from St. Albans 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 Attiogbe as District of Columbia's best high school boys cross country player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Boys Cross Country Player of the Year award to be announced in February, Attiogbe joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners, including Parker Wolfe (2020-21, Cherry Creek High School, Greenwood Village, Colo.), Nico Young (2019-20, Newbury Park High School, Newbury Park, Calif.), Megan Goethals (2009-10, Rochester High School, Rochester Hills, Mich.) and Jordan Hasay (2008-09, Mission College Preparatory Catholic High School, San Luis Obispo, Calif.).

The District of Columbia's returning Gatorade Player of the Year, the 5-foot-11, 140-pound senior raced to his second consecutive DCSAA individual championship, clocking a winning time of 15:52.3 this past season. Attiogbe was unbeaten against DC competition, including wins at the Maryland XC Invitational and the IAC, ISL, MAC Cross Country Championships. He led the Bulldogs to a second straight team title.

Attiogbe has volunteered locally with the Martha's Table community outreach program while also serving on the school's Student Council and its Cyber Patriot and Government Club. "Pierre Attiogbe's dominance on the course was central to St. Albans' continued success this past season," said PrepCalTrack.com editor Rich Gonzalez. "His winning margin at the state meet (51 seconds) was among the largest in the nation, continuing to 'pull the train' for the Bulldogs' scoring pack."

Attiogbe has maintained an A average in the classroom. He will attend Cornell University this fall, where he will compete in cross country and track.

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.

Two-time winner Attiogbe joins recent Gatorade District of Columbia Boys Cross Country Players of the Year Damian Hackett (2020-21, St. Albans School), Cullen Capuano (2019-20, Gonzaga College High School), and Luke Tewalt (2018-19, Washington Latin Public Charter 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.