

**ST. JOHNS COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE FLORIDA GIRLS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

**CHICAGO** (March 8, 2023) — In its 38<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Taliah Scott** of **St. Johns Country Day School** is the **2022-23 Gatorade Florida Girls Basketball Player of the Year**. Scott is the first Gatorade Florida Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from St. Johns Country Day 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 Scott as Florida's best high school girls basketball player. Scott joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Kiki Rice (2021-22, Sidwell Friends School, Washington, D.C.), Paige Bueckers (2019-20, Hopkins High School, Minn.), Nneka Ogwumike (2007-08, CyFair High School, Texas), and Candace Parker (2003-04 & 2002-03, Naperville Central High School, Ill.).

The 5-foot-9 senior guard averaged 36.2 points and 9.2 rebounds per game this past season, leading the Spartans (19-6) to the Class 2A state semifinals. Scott also recorded 4.8 assists and 3.0 steals per game and sank 109 baskets from 3-point range, including 11 in the team's 77-65 state semifinal loss to Faith Christian Academy. A McDonald's High School All-American Game selection, she was the 2022 Class 2A Player of the Year. She concluded her prep basketball career with 2,733 points.

Scott has volunteered more than 100 hours of her time teaching the game of basketball to young girls at summer camps, weekend training sessions and the local YMCA. She has also donated her time at the Ronald McDonald House of Central Florida and as a peer mentor. "Taliah is a phenomenal basketball player and is very difficult to stop," said Wyatt Walker, head coach of the Episcopal School of Jacksonville. "What separates her on the court is that she is a scoring threat from all three levels. Her ability to shoot the 3-ball, get to the rim and knock down the mid-range jumper make her very hard to guard."

Scott has maintained a weighted 4.32 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a national letter of intent to play basketball on scholarship at the University of Arkansas 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.

Scott joins recent Gatorade Florida Girls Basketball Players of the Year Ta'Niya Latson (2021-22, American Heritage School), Kendal Cheesman (2020-21, H.B. Plant High School), and O'Mariah Gordon (2019-20 & 2018-19, Braden River 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).