

**ST. THOMAS MORE STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE CONNECTICUT BOYS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (March 15, 2023) — In its 38th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Tyler Betsey** of **St. Thomas More** is the **2022-23 Gatorade Connecticut Boys Basketball Player of the Year**. Betsey is the fourth Gatorade Connecticut Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from St. Thomas More.

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 Betsey as Connecticut's best high school boys basketball player. Betsey joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Chet Holmgren (2020-21, Minnehaha Academy, Minn.), Trae Young (2016-17, Norman North High School, Ok.), Jayson Tatum (2015-16, Chaminade College Preparatory School, Mo.), and Karl-Anthony Towns (2013-14 & 2012-13, St. Joseph High School, N.J.).

The 6-foot-8, 200-pound junior forward led the Chancellors (19-17) to the New England Preparatory School Athletic Council Class AAA quarterfinals this past season. Betsey averaged 21 points, 5 rebounds and 3 assists per game and was a First Team All-NEPSAC selection in Class AAA. He's ranked as the nation's No. 53 recruit in the Class of 2024 by ESPN.

A member of the study, kayaking and cooking clubs at St. Thomas More, Betsey has volunteered locally on behalf of a Christmas gift and food drive. "Tyler is an unbelievable worker," said St. Thomas More coach Jere Quinn. "His improvement has catapulted him to the pinnacle of recruitment and he's accomplished this with modesty. You wouldn't know his capabilities by his demeanor."

Betsey has maintained a 4.0 GPA in the classroom at St. Thomas More. 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.

Betsey joins recent Gatorade Connecticut Boys Basketball Players of the Year Donovan Clingan (2021-22 & 2020-21, Bristol Central High School), Micawber Etienne (2019-20, Suffield Academy), and Tre Mitchell (2018-19, The Woodstock Academy), 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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