

**MOUNT SAINT JOSEPH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE MARYLAND 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 **Amani Hansberry** of **Mount Saint Joseph High School** is the **2022-23 Gatorade Maryland Boys Basketball Player of the Year**. Hansberry is the second Gatorade Maryland Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Mount Saint Joseph 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 court, distinguishes Hansberry as Maryland's best high school boys basketball player. Hansberry 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, 210-pound senior forward led the Gaels to a 38-4 record and both the Baltimore Catholic League regular-season and tournament championships this past season. Hansberry averaged 15.3 points, 12.0 rebounds and 4.0 assists per game, including a 17-point, 21-rebound effort in MSJ's 59-50 win over St. Maria Goretti Catholic High School in the BCL tournament title game as the Gaels tied a state record for wins in a season. The 2023 BCL Player of the Year and the 2022 Baltimore Sun Metro Player of the Year, he's ranked as the nation's No. 52 recruit in the Class of 2023 by ESPN.com.

Hansberry has volunteered locally as a youth basketball coach. "Amani is dominant," said Josh Davalli, head coach of Loyola Blakefield. "He's a big body who is tough to move in the post and has the skills to score in there. He's got long arms and great hands, which make him an excellent rebounder and tough to score on. He is at a different level than the other kids on the floor."

Hansberry has maintained a B average in the classroom. He has signed a national letter of intent to play basketball on scholarship at the University of Illinois 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.

Hansberry joins recent Gatorade Maryland Boys Basketball Players of the Year Cam Whitmore (2021-22, Archbishop Spalding High School), Jordan Hawkins (2020-21, DeMatha Catholic High School), Hunter Dickinson (2019-20, DeMatha Catholic High School), and Justin Moore (2018-19, DeMatha Catholic 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.