LAKEVILLE NORTH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE MINNESOTA 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 **Nolan Winter** of **Lakeville North High School** is the **2022-23 Gatorade Minnesota Boys Basketball Player of the Year**. Winter is the first Gatorade Minnesota Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Lakeville North 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 Winter as Minnesota's best high school boys basketball player. Winter 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.).

At the time of his selection, the 6-foot-11, 210-pound senior forward had led the Panthers to a 24-3 record this season and a berth in the 4A-Section 1 postseason semifinals. He averaged 23.2 points, 11.5 rebounds, 1.2 assists and 1.3 blocks through 27 games.

Winter has volunteered locally assisting the elderly with lawn mowing, snow shoveling and landscaping, and on behalf of Feed My Starving Children, a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing food to needy children. He also has donated his time as a youth basketball official and coach at various camps and tournaments. "He's tall and can score around the basket with post moves, but he can also step out and hit 3-pointers," said Tharen Johnson, head coach at Farmington High School. "He is a defensive presence around the basket, blocking shots. Our whole game plan against Lakeville North always began with how to defend him."

Winter has maintained a 3.9 weighted GPA in the classroom. He has signed a national letter of intent to play basketball on scholarship at the University of Wisconsin 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.

Winter joins recent Gatorade Minnesota Boys Basketball Players of the Year Tre Holloman (2021-22, Cretin-Derham Hall High School), Chet Holmgren (2020-21, Minnehaha Academy), Jalen Suggs (2019-20, Minnehaha Academy), and Matthew Hurt (2018-19, John Marshall 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.

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