

**SEAFORTH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE NORTH CAROLINA 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 **Jarin Stevenson** of **Seaforth High School** is the **2022-23 Gatorade North Carolina Boys Basketball Player of the Year**. Stevenson is the first Gatorade North Carolina Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Seaforth 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 Stevenson as North Carolina’s best high school boys basketball player. Stevenson 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-10, 200-pound junior forward averaged 21.5 points and 11.6 rebounds per game this past season, leading the Hawks (18-9) to the second round of the Class 2A state tournament. Stevenson connected on 60.1 percent of his field goal attempts (196-of-326) along with averages of 3.7 blocks, 2.7 assists and 1.3 steals per game. He is ranked as the nation’s No. 16 recruit in the Class of 2024 by ESPN.com and has scored 1,230 points in his prep basketball career.

Stevenson has helped organize a school shoe drive for needy children around the world. He has also volunteered extensively on behalf of the Special Olympics and has donated his time as a youth basketball coach. “Stevenson is a long-framed and lean prospect who has a high degree of basketball skill and touch,” said Paul Biancardi, National Recruiting Director for ESPN. “He continues to show growth in his game and production level. He’s excellent at rebounding down low, pushing the break and finishing in transition with body control and touch. Versatility is his defining skill, as he’s comfortable and effective inside or facing up. His respectful and coachable manner further elevates his potential.”

Stevenson has maintained a weighted 4.47 GPA in the classroom. 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.

Stevenson joins recent Gatorade North Carolina Boys Basketball Players of the Year Paul McNeil (2021-22, Richmond Senior High School), Terquavion Smith (2020-21, Farmville High School), Jaden Bradley (2019-20, Cannon School), and Wendell Moore (2018-19, Cox Mill 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.