## MINOT HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE NORTH DAKOTA BOYS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

**CHICAGO** (March 15, 2023) — In its 38<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Darik Dissette** of **Minot High School** is the **2022-23 Gatorade North Dakota Boys Basketball Player of the Year**. Dissette is the third Gatorade North Dakota Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Minot 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 Dissette as North Dakota's best high school boys basketball player. Dissette 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-4, 190-pound senior guard had led the Magicians (20-5) to a berth in the Class A state tournament before losing to Grand Forks Red River, 81-80, on a buzzer beater in the opening round. Dissette averaged 27.5 points, 7.5 rebounds, 3.5 assists and 2.2 steals per game this past season. He was named the WDA's Senior Athlete of the Year and is ranked as North Dakota's No. 1 player in the Class of 2023 by PrepHoops.com. He concluded his prep career as the leading scorer in school history.

Dissette has volunteered locally on behalf of multiple youth sports camps, including the Minot Magi Basketball Camp. "Dissette checks every single box on the court," said Jamestown head coach Jacoby Lloyd. "He is a clutch shot-maker who fills up the statsheet and makes gritty, winning plays. His combination of height, length, shot-making ability and ball handling makes him nearly impossible to contain."

Dissette has maintained a 3.62 weighted GPA in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on scholarship at North Dakota State this fall.

The <u>Gatorade Player of the Year</u> 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.

Dissette joins recent Gatorade North Dakota Boys Basketball Players of the Year Joe Hurlburt (2021-22 & 2020-21, Enderlin High School), Boden Skunberg (2019-20, Jamestown High School), and Mason Walters (2018-19, Jamestown 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 <a href="mailto:facebook.com/Gatorade">facebook.com/Gatorade</a> and Twitter at <a href="mailto:twitter.com/Gatorade">twitter.com/Gatorade</a>.