

**DUNCANVILLE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE TEXAS 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 **Ron Holland** of **Duncanville High School** is the **2022-23 Gatorade Texas Boys Basketball Player of the Year**. Holland is the third Gatorade Texas Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Duncanville 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 Holland as Texas’ best high school boys basketball player. Holland 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 senior forward led the Panthers to a 29-1 record and a No. 3 national ranking in the ESPN Top 25 this past season. Holland averaged 20.3 points, 10.1 rebounds, 2.4 assists, 2.0 steals and 0.6 blocks per game. Ranked as the nation’s No. 5 recruit in the Class of 2023 by ESPN and a McDonald’s All-American, he also was named to the Team USA roster for Nike Hoop Summit in April.

Holland has volunteered locally by starting a holiday toy drive that raised nearly \$1,000 for two needy families. He also has donated his time as a mentor and speaker at youth basketball camps. “Holland has impacted winning as the best and most versatile defender in the ESPN 100,” said Paul Biancardi, National Recruiting Director for ESPN. “He can guard multiple positions and can seamlessly switch when defending in the halfcourt. He has the personality and mindset to outwork his opponent—the ultimate glue guy despite possessing the ability to score in the paint or from the perimeter. He’s also a consummate winner at every level, including with USA Basketball in each of the last two summers.”

Holland has maintained a 3.08 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a national letter of intent to play basketball on scholarship at the University of Texas 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.

Holland joins recent Gatorade Texas Boys Basketball Players of the Year Cason Wallace (2021-22, Richardson High School), Daimion Collins (2020-21, Atlanta High School), Greg Brown III (2019-20, Vandegrift High School), and R.J. Hampton (2018-19, Little Elm 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.