

**CYPRUS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE UTAH 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 **Quentin Meza** of **Cyprus High School** is the **2022-23 Gatorade Utah Boys Basketball Player of the Year**. Meza is the first Gatorade Utah Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Cyprus 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 Meza as Utah’s best high school boys basketball player. Meza 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, 180-pound senior guard led the Pirates to a 23-5 record and the 6A state semifinals this past season. Meza averaged 24.9 points, 6.3 rebounds, 6.3 assists and 2.0 steals per game. He became the eighth player in Utah history to reach 2,000 career points, and scored 31 in a playoff game to reach that milestone.

Meza has volunteered locally as a tutor and mentor at Magna Elementary School, assisting students with reading and serving as a role model within the community. He has also donated his time making care packages for residents of Legacy House of Taylorsville, a senior living community. “He’s a nightmare to defend, because once he has the ball, he’s either going to get one of his teammates a great shot or score on his own a high percentage of the time,” said Bernie Graziano, head coach at Taylorsville High School. “No player has done more to help his team win and compete than Quentin Meza.”

Meza has maintained a 3.82 GPA in the classroom. He remains undecided upon a collegiate destination.

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.

Meza joins recent Gatorade Utah Boys Basketball Players of the Year Collin Chandler (2021-22, Farmington High School), Nolan Hickman (2020-21, Wasatch Academy), Dallin Hall (2019-20, Fremont High School), and Rylan Jones (2018-19, Olympus 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](http://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com) or follow us on social media on Facebook at [facebook.com/GatoradePOY](https://facebook.com/GatoradePOY), Instagram at [instagram.com/Gatorade](https://instagram.com/Gatorade) and Twitter at [twitter.com/Gatorade](https://twitter.com/Gatorade).

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