

**NAPERVILLE CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE ILLINOIS BOYS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

**CHICAGO** (June 16, 2023) — In its 38<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation’s best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Chase Adams of Naperville Central High School** is the **2022-23 Gatorade Illinois Boys Soccer Player of the Year**. Adams is the second Gatorade Illinois Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Naperville Central 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 field, distinguishes Adams as Illinois’ best high school boys soccer player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Boys Soccer Player of the Year award to be announced in June, Adams joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Ben Bender (2019-20, Calvert Hall College High School, Md.), Jacob Shaffelburg (2017-18, Berkshire School, Mass.), Jack Harrison (2013-14, Berkshire School, Mass.) and Steve Cherundolo (1996-97, Mt. Carmel High School, Calif.).

The 6-foot, 170-pound freshman forward led the Redhawks to a 26-3-1 record and the Class 3A state championship this past season. Adams scored 22 goals and passed for 19 assists. The Illinois High School Soccer Coaches Association Player of the Year, Adams has participated in multiple U.S. Soccer Youth National Team Talent ID camps. He was a United Soccer Coaches All-American selection and the Chicagoland.com Soccer Player of the Year.

Adams has volunteered locally as part of multiple community service initiatives through the Naperville Chapter of the Young Men’s Service League. He has also donated his time as a youth soccer coach. “Chase is a player I have seen grow through his time at the youth level into his freshman year at Naperville Central,” said Nick Skrip, head coach of Plainfield South High School. “To see him have such a great (freshman) season and it lead to a state championship is remarkable.”

Adams has maintained a weighted 3.83 GPA in the classroom. He will begin his sophomore 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.

Adams joins recent Gatorade Illinois Boys Soccer Players of the Year Alex Barger (2021-22, Naperville North High School), Max Floriani (2020-21, Warren Township High School), Jack Finnegan (2019-20, Brother Rice High School), and Colin Iverson (2018-19, Naperville North 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).