

**BEARDEN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE TENNESSEE 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 **Lucas Nordin** of **Bearden High School** is the **2022-23 Gatorade Tennessee Boys Soccer Player of the Year**. Nordin is the fourth Gatorade Tennessee Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Bearden 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 Nordin as Tennessee's 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, Nordin 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-2, 185-pound senior forward scored 27 goals and passed for eight assists this past season, leading the Bulldogs (18-1-3) to the Class 3A state quarterfinals. A two-time Region 2-3A Player of the Year and a two-time All-State honoree, Nordin was also a 2022 United Soccer Coaches All-American selection. He concluded his prep soccer career with 74 goals and 24 assists.

Nordin has volunteered locally with the Special Olympics and as a peer tutor. He has also donated his time by packing boxes of provisions for families in need at Christmas. "There wasn't anyone who could score like Lucas," said Bradley Culbreth, head coach of Farragut High School. "He uses both feet, has a high work-rate and brings a physical element at all times. I double-teamed him for our last game and (the goals were scored by teammates) because of his movement off the ball."

Nordin has maintained a weighted 3.88 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on scholarship at East Tennessee State University 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.

Nordin joins recent Gatorade Tennessee Boys Soccer Players of the Year Malachi Jones (2021-22, Grace Christian Academy), Gui Vivaldini (2020-21, McCallie School), and Brandon Parrish (2019-20 & 2018-19, Fairview 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).