

**SUSSEX TECH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE DELAWARE BOYS TRACK & FIELD PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

**CHICAGO** (June 29, 2023) — In its 38<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Yougendy Mauricette** of **Sussex Tech High School** is the **2022-23 Gatorade Delaware Boys Track & Field Player of the Year**. Mauricette is the first Gatorade Delaware Boys Track & Field Player of the Year to be chosen from Sussex Tech 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 Mauricette as Delaware's best high school boys track & field athlete. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Boys Track & Field Player of the Year award to be announced in July, Mauricette joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Nico Young (2019-20, Newbury Park High School, Calif.), Michael Norman (2015-16 & 2014-15, Vista Murrieta High School, Calif.), Grant Fisher (2014-15 & 2013-14, Grand Blanc High School, Mich.) and Robert Griffin III (2006-07, Copperas Cove High School, Texas).

The state's returning Gatorade Player of the Year, the 6-foot-3, 135-pound senior won the 110-meter high hurdles, the 300 low hurdles and the long jump at the Division 1 state meet this past season, leading the Ravens to the state title as a team. Mauricette's winning leap of 23 feet, 3 inches in the long jump set a new state record and ranked No. 86 nationally among prep competitors in 2023. Mauricette set a state record in the 400-meter high hurdles at the AAU District Track & Field Championships with a time of 54.50 seconds, which ranked No. 73 nationally this spring. He also ranked No. 45 nationally in the 300 hurdles (37.60) and No. 81 in the 110 hurdles (14.13).

Mauricette has volunteered locally as a youth track mentor, and he has donated his time to multiple community service initiatives through his church. "Yougendy Mauricette truly rates as a rarity this spring, emerging as a national-caliber force in four events," said Rich Gonzalez, editor of PrepCalTrack.com. "The USC-bound standout also secured a wind-legal state record in the long jump at the DIAA Meet of Champions, but also soared six inches farther in a wind-aided, mid-season performance."

Mauricette has maintained a 3.36 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete on a scholarship at the University of Southern California 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.

Two-time winner Mauricette joins recent Gatorade Delaware Boys Track & Field Players of the Year Zyaire Nuriddin (2020-21, Howard High School of Technology) and Brahmir Vick (2019-20 & 2018-19, Middletown 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).