

**ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA GIRLS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (March 14, 2024) — In its 39th year of honoring the nation's most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Kyndal Walker** of **St. John's College High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade District of Columbia Girls Basketball Player of the Year**. Walker is the ninth Gatorade District of Columbia Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from St. John's College High School.

The award, which celebrates the nation's top high school athletes for excellence on the court, in the classroom and in the community, distinguishes Walker as District of Columbia's best high school girls basketball player. From CEOs and coaches to star athletes, Gatorade Player of the Year winners showcase the power of sport, touting an all-star group of alumni that includes Candace Parker (2003-04, 2002-03 & 2001-02, Naperville Central High School, Ill.), Paige Bueckers (2017-18, Hopkins High School, Minn.) and Juju Watkins (2022-23 & 2021-22, Sierra Canyon School, Calif.).

The 5-foot-9 senior point guard led the Cadets to a 26-5 record and championships in both the Washington Catholic Athletic Conference and DCSAA tournaments this past season. Walker averaged 16.0 points, 4.6 rebounds and 2.7 assists per game. She scored 18 points in a 42-39, overtime win over Sidwell Friends in the DCSAA finale. A three-time First Team All-WCAC selection and a three-time WCAC tournament champion, Walker is ranked as the nation's No. 36 recruit in the Class of 2024 by espnW. She concluded her prep basketball career with 1,244 points.

A practiced artist, Walker has volunteered locally with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services on a project to promote the importance of oral health in underserved communities. She has also donated her time as a peer tutor and youth basketball coach. "Kyndal is a seasoned player who made plays when her team needed her to," said Edythe White, head coach of Archbishop Carroll High School. "St. John's would not have experienced the success that they had if not for that young lady. She had a huge impact on her team."

Walker has maintained a weighted 3.83 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a national letter of intent to play basketball on scholarship at the University of Maryland 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.

Walker joins recent Gatorade District of Columbia Girls Basketball Players of the Year Jaydn Donovan (2022-23, Sidwell Friends School), Kiki Rice (2021-22 & 2019-20, Sidwell Friends School) and Azzi Fudd (2020-21, St. John's College High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

As part of Gatorade's commitment to breaking down barriers in sport, every Player of the Year also receives a grant to donate to a social impact partner. To date, Gatorade Player of the Year winners' grants have totaled more than \$4.9 million across more than 1,600 organizations.

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.

###