

**CHEVERUS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE MAINE 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 **Maddie Fitzpatrick** of **Cheverus High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade Maine Girls Basketball Player of the Year**. Fitzpatrick is the first Gatorade Maine Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Cheverus 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 Fitzpatrick as Maine'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-11 senior guard averaged 23 points and 11.3 rebounds per game this past season, leading the Stags (21-0) to the Class AA state championship. Fitzpatrick also averaged 4.9 steals and 4.7 assists per game. Also Maine's 2022-23 Girls Basketball Gatorade Player of the Year, she scored 14 points and added 13 rebounds in Cheverus's 38-24 win over Gorham in the Class AA final.

A National Honor Society member, Fitzpatrick has volunteered locally as a local youth basketball instructor and is a member of her school's environmental action club, civil rights club and Best Buddies. "Maddie can score from all three levels on the court," said Brody Artes, Windham High School head coach. "She can defend all three levels as well and she's a great passer who makes all of her teammates around her better. She's also a great leader."

Fitzpatrick has maintained a 3.96 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a national letter of intent to play basketball on scholarship at the University of Maine 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 Fitzpatrick joins recent Gatorade Maine Girls Basketball Players of the Year Jaycie Christopher (2021-22, Skowhegan Area High School) and Emily Archibald (2020-21 & 2019-20, Kennebunk 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.

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