

**MORGANTOWN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE WEST VIRGINIA BOYS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (March 21, 2024) — In its 39th year of honoring the nation’s most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Sharron Young** of **Morgantown High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade West Virginia Boys Basketball Player of the Year**. Young is the first Gatorade West Virginia Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Morgantown 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 Young as West Virginia’s best high school boys 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 LeBron James (2002-03 & 2001-02, St. Vincent – St. Mary High School, Ohio), Karl-Anthony Towns (2013-14 & 2012-13, St. Joseph High School, N.J.) and Jayson Tatum (2015-16, 2014-15 & 2013-14, Chaminade College Preparatory School, Mo.).

The 6-foot, 155-pound senior guard led the Mohigans to a 26-1 record and a third straight AAAA state championship this past season, earning Tournament MVP honors in the process. Young, who hit the game-winning 3-pointer in overtime of the title game, averaged 21.5 points, 7.0 rebounds, 6.8 assists and 5.9 steals, becoming the program’s career leading scorer with 1,496 points, which broke a team record set in 1956. Ranked as the state’s No. 2 prospect in the Class of 2024 by PrepHoops, he shot 40.1 percent from beyond the 3-point arc this past season.

Young has volunteered locally with Lauren’s Wish, a non-profit organization dedicated to helping those struggling with addiction and substance abuse. He’s also donated his time distributing food during the holidays on behalf of the United Way in addition to participating in various local organizations’ Angel Tree initiatives, providing holiday gifts to less fortunate children. “He is by far the most difficult player we have to prepare for all season,” said Michael Jebbia, head coach of Wheeling Park High School. “He has improved his 3-point shot a great deal, and he makes the right basketball play almost every time. He makes all his teammates better.”

Young has maintained a 3.43 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a national letter of intent to play basketball on scholarship at the University of Akron 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.

Young joins recent Gatorade West Virginia Boys Basketball Players of the Year Eli Allen (2022-23, James Monroe High School), Isaac McKneely (2021-22 & 2020-21, Poca High School), and Jaemyn Brakefield (2019-20, Huntington-St. Joseph Prep), 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.

###