

**OLD SAYBROOK HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE CONNECTICUT BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

**CHICAGO** (June 3, 2024) — In its 39<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Connor Lane** of **Old Saybrook High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade Connecticut Baseball Player of the Year**. Lane is the first Gatorade Connecticut Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Old Saybrook High School.

The award, which celebrates the nation's top high school athletes for excellence on the field, in the classroom and in the community, distinguishes Lane as Connecticut's best high school baseball 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 Gary Sheffield (1985-86, Hillsborough High School, Fla.), Alex Rodriguez (1992-93, Westminster Christian School, Fla.), Clayton Kershaw (2005-06, Highland Park High School, Texas) and Max Clark (2022-23, 2021-22 & 2020-21, Franklin Community High School, Ind.).

The 6-foot-3, 210-pound senior catcher and right-handed pitcher batted .509 with four home runs, 27 runs and 16 steals this past season, producing a .659 on-base percentage and a 1.553 OPS for the Rams (8-14). He also compiled a 3-3 record on the mound with one save, posting a 0.83 ERA with 68 strikeouts in 33.2 innings pitched. A two-time All-State selection entering the season, Lane is ranked as the No. 4 prospect in the Class of 2024 by the New England by Prep Baseball Report. He participated in PBR's Super 60 showcase prior to the start of the season and also received an invite to the 2023 Area Code Games.

Lane has volunteered locally on behalf of the Josephine Marcolini Memorial Award, which annually recognizes fifth-grade students with exemplary values in the Old Saybrook community. He has also donated his time by running skills clinics for Old Saybrook Little League, and as a youth baseball instructor. "In my experience playing and coaching, Connor is by far the best baseball player I've ever seen," said Phil Cohen, head coach at Old Lyme High School. "He's an incredible catcher with an insane pop time. His bat is out-of-this-world ... He's just a great kid and a great leader. We definitely have to pitch around him."

Lane has maintained an A average in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on scholarship at the University of Connecticut 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.

Lane joins recent Gatorade Connecticut Baseball Players of the Year Hiro Wyatt (2022-23, Staples High School), Matt Scott (2021-22, Joel Barlow High School), Connor Podeszwa (2020-21, Waterford High School) and Jared Burrows (2019-20, Waterford 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, the Gatorade Player of the Year program has provided more than \$4.9 million in grants to winners across more than 1,900 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](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 X(Twitter) at [x.com/Gatorade](https://x.com/Gatorade).

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