

**CLARKSTON HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE MICHIGAN BOYS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 14, 2024) — In its 39th year of honoring the nation’s most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Sebalian Roy** of **Clarkston High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade Michigan Boys Soccer Player of the Year**. Roy is the first Gatorade Michigan Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Clarkston 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 Roy as Michigan’s best high school boys soccer 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 Lyle Yorks (1987-88, E.O. Smith High School, Conn.), Alecko Eskandarian (1999-00, Bergen Catholic High School, N.J.) and Ben Bender (2019-20, Calvert Hall College High School, Md.).

The 6-foot-3, 188-pound senior forward scored 18 goals and passed for six assists this past season, leading the Wolves (11-3-1) to the Division I, District 6 Tournament championship game. After playing exclusively for his club team during his first two years of high school, Roy became the 2023 Michigan High School Soccer Coaches Association’s Mr. Soccer winner as a junior. The son of Travis Roy, the state’s 1991-92 Michigan Boys Soccer Player of the Year, he is a two-time First Team All-State selection and concluded his prep soccer career with 31 goals and 11 assists.

Roy has volunteered locally in his neighborhood as a jack-of-all-trades: digging up tree roots, laying down sod, mulching, preparing sand, pebbles and stones for patios and helping people move. “We went into our game knowing we needed to shut Sebi down and we were overpowered by him most of the first half,” said Chris Purgatori, head coach of Rochester High School. “We attempted to man-mark him and take him out of the game but that backfired. He had a hat trick in the first half. He’s the type of kid that impacts every game.”

Roy has maintained a 4.0 GPA in the classroom. He remains undecided upon a collegiate destination.

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.

Roy joins recent Gatorade Michigan Boys Soccer Players of the Year Kyle Pierson (2022-23, Detroit Catholic Central High School), Nick Cassidy (2021-22, Grand Rapids Christian High School), Roni Sylejmani (2020-21, Gull Lake High School) and Aidan O’Connor (2019-20, Forest Hills Northern 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 or follow us on social media on Facebook at facebook.com/GatoradePOY, Instagram at instagram.com/Gatorade and X(Twitter) at x.com/Gatorade.