

**ARCHBISHOP MOELLER HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE OHIO 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 **Bradley Poppell of Archbishop Moeller High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade Ohio Boys Soccer Player of the Year**. Poppell is the first Gatorade Ohio Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Archbishop Moeller 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 Poppell as Ohio’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 5-foot-8, 140-pound senior midfielder scored 23 goals and passed for six assists this past season, leading the Fighting Crusaders (24-1) to the Division I state championship game. The Ohio Soccer Coaches Association’s Mr. Soccer winner, Poppell was a United Soccer Coaches High School All-American selection and participated in the High School All-American Game in December. He concluded his prep soccer career with a school-record 55 goals along with 23 assists.

Poppell has logged more than 40 flight hours and wants to pursue a career as a pilot. He has volunteered locally with Matthew 25 Ministries, a non-profit organization that supports nationwide disaster relief. He has also donated his time as a peer tutor and as a youth soccer coach “Bradley is the best, most versatile player I’ve seen in years,” said Chris Vonau, head coach of St. Charles Preparatory School. “He is good on the ball. His vision and read of the game were keys to his team’s success. He can score goals, facilitate others scoring, defend and he’s great in transition.”

Poppell has maintained a weighted 4.72 GPA in the classroom. He will attend the United States Air Force Academy, where he will play soccer, beginning 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.

Poppell joins recent Gatorade Ohio Boys Soccer Players of the Year Nolan Spicer (2022-23 & 2021-22, Saint Ignatius High School), Luciano Pechota (2020-21, Saint Ignatius High School) and Kyle Folds (2019-20, Saint Ignatius 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.