

**PALM BAY MAGNET HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE FLORIDA GIRLS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (March 13, 2025) — In its 40th year of honoring the nation’s most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Jaida Civil** of **Palm Bay Magnet High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade Florida Girls Basketball Player of the Year**. Civil is the first Gatorade Florida Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Palm Bay Magnet High School.

Gatorade Player of the Year is the top honor in high school sports, celebrating the nation’s best high school athletes for their success on the court, in the classroom and in the community. The award distinguishes Civil as Florida’s best high school girls basketball player, and she joins an impressive group of alumni that spans CEOs, coaches and star athletes such as Candace Parker (2002-03 & 2003-04, Naperville Central High School, Illinois), Paige Bueckers (2019-20, Hopkins High School, Minnesota) and Joyce Edwards (2023-24, Camden High School, South Carolina).

The 6-foot senior guard led the Pirates to a 25-7 record and the Class 4A state championship this past season. Civil averaged 18.1 points, 7.4 rebounds, 5.3 assists and 3.4 steals and she compiled 20 points, nine boards and seven assists in a 67-57 win over American Heritage High in the state final. A McDonald’s All-American Game selection and a finalist for Florida Miss Basketball, Civil is also a Naismith Award Honorable Mention All-American honoree. She is ranked as the nation’s No. 13 recruit in the Class of 2025 by 247Sports.

Civil has volunteered locally at Palm Bay Elementary School and she has donated her time with the Children’s Hunger Project and as a youth basketball coach. “Jaida has been exceptional this season,” said Melvin Jimenez, head coach of Viera High School. “She is consistently one of the best players on the floor, dominating both ends of the court. Her ability to score, create plays and control the tempo makes her a standout.”

Civil has maintained a weighted 3.75 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a written letter of athletic aid to play basketball at the University of Tennessee this fall.

The [Gatorade Player of the Year](#) program annually recognizes one winner in the District of Columbia and each of the 50 states across 12 different high school sports – 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.

Civil joins recent Gatorade Florida Girls Basketball Players of the Year Jalon Cambridge (2023-24, Montverde Academy), Taliah Scott (2022-23, St. Johns Country Day School), Ta’Niya Latson (2021-22, American Heritage School) and Kendal Cheesman (2020-21, H.B. Plant 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 \$5.6 million in grants to winners across more than 2,000 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 Instagram at [instagram.com/Gatorade](https://www.instagram.com/Gatorade), Facebook at [facebook.com/GatoradePOY](https://www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY) and X(Twitter) at x.com/Gatorade.