

LARGO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE MARYLAND BOYS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (March 20, 2025)— In its 40th year of honoring the nation’s most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Cam Ward of Largo High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade Maryland Boys Basketball Player of the Year**. Ward is the first Gatorade Maryland Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Largo 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 Ward as Maryland's best high school boys basketball player, and he joins an impressive group of alumni that spans CEOs, coaches and star athletes such as Karl-Anthony Towns (2012-13 & 2013-14, St. Joseph High School, N.J.), Jayson Tatum (2013-14, 2014-15 & 2015-16, Chaminade College Preparatory School, Mo.) and Cooper Flagg (2023-24, Montverde Academy, Fl.).

The 6-foot-9, 220-pound senior forward led the Lions to a 24-2 record and a second straight Class 2A state championship this past season. The state’s returning Gatorade Player of the Year, Ward averaged 29.5 points, 12.7 rebounds, 4.0 assists, 2.8 blocks and 1.6 steals, including 20 points and 15 boards in Largo’s 50-48 win over New Town High School in the state final. A two-time Washington Post First Team All-Met selection, he’s ranked as the nation’s No. 54 recruit in the Class of 2025 by 247Sports and will graduate with 2,713 points in his prep basketball career.

Ward has volunteered locally at the Capitol Area Food Bank as part of the Team Durant Family Foundation. He has also donated his time as a youth basketball coach. “Hands down, Cam Ward would be (a great choice for) Gatorade Player of the Year—unanimous,” said Rob Garner, head coach of Gwynn Park High School. “Not just because of stats, but because of his presence, impact and how much he has elevated Largo’s program, players and team. The all-time leading scorer for the state of Maryland. Wow!”

Ward has maintained a weighted 3.30 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a written letter of athletic aid to play basketball at Michigan State University 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.

Two-time winner Ward joins recent Gatorade Maryland Boys Basketball Players of the Year Amani Hansberry (2022-23, Mount Saint Joseph High School), Cam Whitmore (2021-22, Archbishop Spalding High School) and Jordan Hawkins (2020-21, DeMatha Catholic 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.