LONG ISLAND LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE NEW YORK 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 **Kayden Mingo** of **Long Island Lutheran High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade New York Boys Basketball Player of the Year**. Mingo is the fourth Gatorade New York Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Long Island Lutheran 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 Mingo as New York'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.).

At the time of his selection, the 6-foot-2, 178-pound senior guard had led the Crusaders to a 21-6 record and a berth in the upcoming Throne National Championships and Chipotle Nationals. Mingo averaged 13.6 points, 5.4 rebounds, 4.1 assists and 1.9 steals per game through 27 games and was a Second Team All-Nike EYBL Scholastic League selection. He's ranked as the nation's No. 39 recruit in the Class of 2025 by Rivals.com.

Mingo has volunteered locally as a youth basketball coach, and he has donated his time to multiple community service initiatives through his church. "Kayden is one of the most efficient players we have played against over the last number of years," said Dan Feeney, head coach of Chaminade High School. "He plays both guard positions, rebounds the ball at a very high level for a guard and scores at all three levels. When needed, he would lead their team in scoring and also assisted in playmaking responsibilities."

Mingo has maintained a weighted A average in the classroom. He has signed a written letter of athletic aid to play basketball at Penn State University this fall.

The <u>Gatorade Player of the Year</u> 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.

Mingo joins recent Gatorade New York Boys Basketball Players of the Year VJ Edgecombe (2023-24 & 2022-23, Long Island Lutheran High School), Tobe Awaka (2021-22, Cardinal Hayes High School) and Jordan Riley (2020-21, Brentwood 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 <u>playeroftheyear.gatorade.com</u> or follow us on social media on Instagram at <u>instagram.com/Gatorade</u>. Facebook at <u>facebook.com/GatoradePOY</u> and X(Twitter) at <u>x.com/Gatorade</u>.