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SOUTHRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE® OREGON GIRLS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (March 19, 2018) — In its 33rd year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, today announced Cameron Brink of Southridge High School as its 2017-18 Gatorade Oregon Girls Basketball Player of the Year. Brink is the second Gatorade Oregon Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Southridge High School.

The award, which recognizes not only outstanding athletic excellence, but also high standards of academic achievement and exemplary character demonstrated on and off the field, distinguishes Brink as Oregon's best high school girls basketball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Girls Basketball Player of the Year award announced in March, Brink joins an elite alumni association of past state girls basketball award-winners, including Maya Moore (2005-06 Collins Hill HS, Ga.), Rashanda McCants (2004-05, Asheville HS, N.C.), Candace Parker (2001-02, Naperville Central HS, Ill.), Diana Taurasi (1998-99 & 1999-00, Don Antonio Lugo HS, Calif.), Shyra Ely (1999-00, Ben Davis HS, Ind.) and Lisa Leslie (1988-89, Morningside HS, Calif.).

The 6-foot-5 sophomore forward led the Skyhawks to a 28-1 record and a second-straight Class 6A state championship this past season. Brink averaged 17.1 points, 10.5 rebounds, 2.7 blocks, 2.1 assists and 1.9 steals per game and clicked for 10 points, nine rebounds and six blocks in the state-title game win over Benson Tech. Rated as the nation's No. 4 recruit in the Class of 2020 by espnW, she was a Second Team All-State selection as a freshman.

Brink has volunteered locally with special needs students in addition to donating her time as a youth basketball coach. "Cameron Brink is a force," said Marty Burdick, head coach of Westview High. "She changes the game up on both ends of the floor for opponents."

Brink has maintained a 3.71 GPA in the classroom. She will begin her junior year of high school 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 work with top sport-specific experts and a media advisory board of accomplished, veteran prep sports journalists to determine the state winners in each sport.

Brink joins recent Gatorade Oregon Girls Basketball Players of the Year Evina Westbrook (2016-17 & 2015-16, South Salem High School), Katie McWilliams (2014-15, South Salem High School), Jaime Nared (2013-14, Westview High School), Mercedes Russell (2012-13 & 2011-12, Springfield High School), Jen Reese (2010-11 & 2009-10, Clackamas High School), Kate Lanz (2008-09 & 2007-08, Central Catholic High School), and Michelle Jenkins (2006-07, Southridge High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a Gatorade Player of the Year, Cameron will be able to select a national or local youth sports organization to receive a grant as part of the Gatorade Play It Forward program. Every Gatorade Player of the Year state winner receives a \$1,000 grant to donate and will have the opportunity to enter for an additional \$10,000 spotlight grant by writing a brief essay explaining why their selected organization deserves additional support. 12 spotlight grants – one for each sport – will be announced throughout the year.

To keep up to date on the latest happenings, become a fan of Gatorade Player of the Year on Facebook and follow the conversation on Twitter #GatoradePOY. For more on the Gatorade Player of the Year program, including nomination information, a complete list of past winners and the announcement of the Gatorade National Player of the Year, visit http://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com/.