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**LINCOLN CHRISTIAN SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE® NEBRASKA GIRLS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (March 13, 2017) — In its 32nd year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, today announced Chloe Dworak of Lincoln Christian School as its 2016-17 Gatorade Nebraska Girls Basketball Player of the Year. Dworak is the first Gatorade Nebraska Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Lincoln Christian 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 court, distinguishes Dworak as Nebraska'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, Dworak 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 5-foot-6 junior guard led the Lady Crusaders to a 28-2 record and the Class C state title this past season. Dworak averaged 17.3 points, 4.8 assists and 2.8 rebounds per game while shooting 50 percent from inside the arc. A three-time First Team All-State selection, she concluded her prep career with 1,483 points.

A member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, she is a devoted parishioner in her church community and serves as a representative on her school's student council. "Chloe Dworak is a well-rounded player who has worked very hard at this sport," said Stacia Rice, head coach of Grand Island Central Catholic High. "She can not only score, shoot, drive and hit pull-up jumpers, but also her way of distributing the ball to her teammates is unreal. She is also tremendous defensively."

Dworak has maintained a 3.77 GPA in the classroom. She will begin her senior 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.

Dworak joins recent Gatorade Nebraska Girls Basketball Players of the Year Rylie Cascio Jensen (2015-16, Fremont High School), Maddie Simon (2014-15, Pius X High School), Jessica Shepard (2013-14 & 2012-13, Fremont High School), Brianna Craig (2011-12, Lincoln Northeast High School), Alexis Akin-Otiko (2010-11, Bellevue West High School), Jordan Hooper (2009-10 & 2007-08, Alliance High School), K.K. Houser (2008-09, Lincoln Southeast High School), and Dominique Kelley (2006-07, Lincoln Northeast High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a Gatorade Player of the Year, Chloe 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 us on Twitter. 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 www.gatorade.com/poy.