

NORTH COUNTRY UNION HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE VERMONT GIRLS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (March 8, 2023) — In its 38<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced Sabine Brueck of North Country Union High School is the 2022-23 Gatorade Vermont Girls Basketball Player of the Year. Brueck is the first Gatorade Vermont Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from North Country Union 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 court, distinguishes Brueck as Vermont's best high school girls basketball player. Brueck joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Kiki Rice (2021-22, Sidwell Friends School, Washington, D.C.), Paige Bueckers (2019-20, Hopkins High School, Minn.), Nneka Ogumike (2007-08, CyFair High School, Texas), and Candace Parker (2003-04 & 2002-03, Naperville Central High School, Ill.).

The 5-foot-8 sophomore guard led the Falcons to a 24-0 record and the Division II state championship. Entering the state final, Brueck averaged 16.8 points, 6.8 rebounds, 4.3 steals and 3.4 assists per game. She was named to the 2022 Vermont Basketball Coaches Association's D1/D2 Dream Dozen as a freshman.

Brueck volunteers her time locally as a referee for youth basketball games in a recreational league and has also worked at a kids camp in the summertime. "Sabine is the ultimate competitor," said North Country Union High School head coach Sarah Roy. "She thrives when challenged. Night in, night out, Sabine is assigned the top offensive player of every opposing team. Despite her intense focus on defense, she finds ways to consistently produce on offense."

Brueck maintains a 4.0 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 leverages experts including coaches, scouts, media and others as sources to help evaluate and determine the state winners in each sport.

Brueck joins recent Gatorade Vermont Girls Basketball Players of the Year Elyse MacDonough (2021-22, Rice Memorial High School), Catherine Gilwee (2020-21, Champlain Valley Union High School), Olivia Rockwood (2019-20, Windsor High School), and Sadie Stetson (2018-19, St. Johnsbury Academy), among the state's list of former award winners.

Being a Gatorade Player of the Year means paying it forward for the next generation. Through Gatorade's Play it Forward initiative, every Player of the Year receives a grant to give to one of Gatorade's social impact partners, supporting Gatorade's ambition to fuel the future of sport. To date, Gatorade Player of the Year winners' grants have totaled more than \$3.5 million across more than 1,300 organizations.

For nearly 40 years, Gatorade has honored high school athletes at the top of their game as teammates, supporting their communities and achieving academic success. From CEOs and coaches to star athletes and community leaders, Gatorade Player of the Year winners showcase the power of sport.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit [playeroftheyear.gatorade.com](http://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com) or follow us on social media on Facebook at [facebook.com/GatoradePOY](https://facebook.com/GatoradePOY), Instagram at [instagram.com/Gatorade](https://instagram.com/Gatorade) and Twitter at [twitter.com/Gatorade](https://twitter.com/Gatorade).

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