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**WESTSIDE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE® NEBRASKA 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 Quinn Weidemann of Westside High School as its 2017-18 Gatorade Nebraska Girls Basketball Player of the Year. Weidemann is the first Gatorade Nebraska Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Westside 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 Weidemann 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, Weidemann 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-9 senior guard led the Warriors to a 28-3 record and the Class A state championship this past season. Weidemann averaged 20.1 points, 4.1 rebounds, 2.9 assists and 2.8 steals per game while shooting 49 percent from inside the 3-point arc. A three-time Class A First-Team All-State selection, Weidemann is rated the nation's No. 28 guard in the Class of 2018 by espnW.

A standout track athlete, Weidemann has donated her time as a counselor at youth basketball camps in addition to volunteering locally at track events and on behalf of homeless veterans. "I've been unfortunately watching her play against me for four years," said Mark Kruger, head coach at Millard West High. "Where do you start? She does everything, and she does it with fundamentals. She's a winner."

Weidemann has maintained a 3.92 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball at the University of Wyoming beginning 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.

Weidemann joins recent Gatorade Nebraska Girls Basketball Players of the Year Chloe Dworak (2016-17, Lincoln Christian School), 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, Quinn 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/>.

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