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**PROCTOR ACADEMY STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE® NEW HAMPSHIRE 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 Angelique Ngalakulondi of Proctor Academy as its 2017-18 Gatorade New Hampshire Girls Basketball Player of the Year. Ngalakulondi is the first Gatorade New Hampshire Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Proctor Academy.

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 Ngalakulondi as New Hampshire'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, Ngalakulondi 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-2 junior forward and center averaged 24.5 points, 13.0 rebounds, 3.6 blocks and 2.9 steals per game this past season, leading the Hornets (18-7) to the New England Prep School Athletic Council Class C tournament semifinals. The NEPSAC Class C MVP as a sophomore, Ngalakulondi led Proctor to back-to-back Class C championships in 2016 and 2017. She concluded her junior year with 1,213 points in her prep basketball career.

Ngalakulondi, who moved to New Hampshire from the Congo as a 4-year-old, has volunteered locally at a food bank in addition to donating her time to the Special Olympics. "Angelique Ngalakulondi was unstoppable on the offensive end," said Jaclyn Lyons, head coach of Milton (Mass.) Academy. "She was the best all-around post player that we saw all season."

Ngalakulondi has maintained a B average 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.

Ngalakulondi joins recent Gatorade New Hampshire Girls Basketball Players of the Year Liv Orlando (2016-17, Tilton School), Becca Ripley (2015-16, New Hampton School), Maddy Springfield (2014-15, Conant High School), Aliza Simpson (2013-14, Londonderry High School), Jamie Sherburne (2012-13, Bishop Guertin High School), Kirsten O'Neil (2011-12, Winnacunnet High School), Danielle Walczak (2010-11, Oyster River High School), Tiffany Ruffin (2009-10, 2008-09 & 2007-08, Winnacunnet High School), and Stefanie Murphy (2006-07, Londonderry High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a Gatorade Player of the Year, Angelique 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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