FRANKLIN COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE KENTUCKY GIRLS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (May 27, 2021) — In its 36th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced Brooklynn Miles of Franklin County High School as its 2020-21 Gatorade Kentucky Girls Basketball Player of the Year. Miles is the first Gatorade Kentucky Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Franklin County 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 Miles as Kentucky's best high school girls basketball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Girls Basketball Player of the Year award to be announced in June, Miles joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Skylar Diggins-Smith (2008-09, Washington High School, Ind.), Nneka Ogwumike (2007-08, Cy-Fair High School, Texas), Maya Moore (2006-07, Collins Hill High School, Ga.), Candace Parker (2002-03 & 2003-04, Naperville Central High School, Ill.), and Lisa Leslie (1989-90, Morningside High School, Calif.).

The 5-foot-4 senior guard averaged 15.8 points, and 5.4 assists per game this past season, leading the Flyers (18-6) to the state tournament quarterfinals. The state's Miss Basketball winner and the Herald-Leader's Player of the Year, Miles also chipped in with 3.7 rebounds and 3.3 steals per game. Kentucky's only junior to earn First Team All-State honors in 2020, Miles is ranked as the nation's No. 89 recruit in the Class of 2021 by Prospects Nation. She concluded her prep basketball career with 2,278 points.

Miles has volunteered locally as part of community beautification projects and as a youth basketball coach and referee. "Brooklynn is an outstanding player," said Glenn Wilson, head coach of Great Crossing High. "She is very skilled and athletic. She can take over a game when she wants to. She has the skills to score whenever she wants and she's a great defensive player as well."

Miles has maintained a weighted 3.64 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a national letter of intent to play basketball on scholarship at the University of Tennessee this fall.

The <u>Gatorade Player of the Year</u> 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 works with top sport-specific experts and a media advisory board of accomplished, veteran prep sports journalists to determine the state winners in each sport.

Miles joins recent Gatorade Kentucky Girls Basketball Players of the Year Maddie Scherr (2019-20 & 2018-19, Larry A. Ryle High School), Seygan Robins (2017-18, Mercer County Senior High School), and Jaelynn Penn (2016-17, Butler Traditional High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Through Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Miles has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national youth sports organization of their choosing. Miles is also eligible to submit a 30-second video explaining why the organization they chose is deserving of one of twelve \$10,000 spotlight grants, which will be announced throughout the year. To date, Gatorade Player of the Year winners' grants have totaled more than \$2.7 million across 1,117 organizations.

Since the program's inception in 1985, Gatorade Player of the Year award recipients have won hundreds of professional and college championships, and many have also turned into pillars in their communities, becoming coaches, business owners and educators.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit playeroftheyear.gatorade.com, on Facebook at facebook.com/GatoradePOY or follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/Gatorade.