

**NOBLE & GREENOUGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE MASSACHUSETTS GIRLS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (May 27, 2021) — In its 36<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced Caroline Ducharme of Noble & Greenough School as its 2020-21 Gatorade Massachusetts Girls Basketball Player of the Year. Ducharme is the second Gatorade Massachusetts Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Noble & Greenough 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 Ducharme as Massachusetts'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, Ducharme 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 state's returning Gatorade Player of the Year, the 6-foot-2 senior guard and forward led the Bulldogs to a 11-0 record this past season. Ducharme averaged 31.0 points, 15.3 rebounds, 5.3 assists, 4.5 steals and 3.3 blocks per game. A McDonald's All-American Game selection, she is a three-time All-New England selection. Ducharme missed her entire sophomore year due to an injury, but still concluded her prep basketball career with 2,092 points.

Ducharme has volunteered locally on behalf of fundraising campaigns to benefit the American Cancer Society, and she has donated her time as a youth basketball coach. "There are countless ways that Caroline's game makes her stand out," said Alex Gallagher, head coach of Noble & Greenough. "Her ability to shoot from anywhere on the court, read double-teams, attack the rim, dominate the glass and defend all five positions are just a few dimensions of her skill set that make clear how versatile she is."

Ducharme has maintained a B average in the classroom. She has signed a national letter of intent to play basketball on scholarship at the University of Connecticut 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 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.

Two-time winner Ducharme joins Gatorade Massachusetts Girls Basketball Players of the Year Aliyah Boston (2018-19, 2017-18 & 2016-17, Worcester Academy), among the state's list of former award winners.

Through Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Ducharme has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national youth sports organization of their choosing. Ducharme 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](http://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com), on Facebook at [facebook.com/GatoradePOY](https://facebook.com/GatoradePOY) or follow us on Twitter at [twitter.com/Gatorade](https://twitter.com/Gatorade).

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