

**BEDFORD HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE NEW HAMPSHIRE 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 Isabella King of Bedford High School as its 2020-21 Gatorade New Hampshire Girls Basketball Player of the Year. King is the first Gatorade New Hampshire Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Bedford 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 King 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 to be announced in June, King 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 6-foot-1 senior guard led the Bulldogs to a 14-2 record and the Division I state championship this past season. King averaged 20.8 points, 7.9 rebounds, 2.6 assists and 1.6 steals, and she netted 23 points to go with eight rebounds in Bedford's 64-46 win over Bishop Guertin High in the state final. The New Hampshire Basketball Coaches Association's Ms. New Hampshire Basketball winner, King is a two-time First Team All-State selection. She concluded her prep basketball career with 1,115 points.

King has volunteered locally as part of multiple fundraising campaigns to benefit pediatric cancer research through the Jimmy Fund. She has also donated her time as a youth basketball coach. "Isabella King is a stud," said Brad Kreick, head coach of Bishop Guertin High. "She's a great scorer, she's really smart about understanding mismatches and scores at all three levels. She is a great leader and calming presence for her team. The game slows down when she has the ball and she makes great decisions."

King has maintained a weighted 3.96 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a national letter of intent to play basketball on scholarship at Bucknell University 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.

King joins recent Gatorade New Hampshire Girls Basketball Players of the Year Erin Carney (2019-20, Bishop Guertin High School), Brooke Kane (2018-19, Pinkerton Academy), Angelique Ngalakulondi (2017-18, Proctor Academy), and Liv Orlando (2016-17, Tilton School), among the state's list of former award winners.

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

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