GERMANTOWN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE WISCONSIN 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 Kamorea Arnold of Germantown High School as its 2020-21 Gatorade Wisconsin Girls Basketball Player of the Year. Arnold is the first Gatorade Wisconsin Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Germantown 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 Arnold as Wisconsin'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, Arnold 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-9 sophomore guard led the Warhawks to a 29-1 record and the Division 1 state championship this past season. Arnold averaged 22.9 points, 6.3 rebounds, 5.1 assists and 3.8 steals per game. A unanimous selection as the AP State Player of the Year, she was also the Greater Metro Conference Player of the Year. Arnold is ranked as the nation's No. 5 recruit in the Class of 2023 by ESPN.

Arnold has served as an elementary school mentor and has volunteered locally making blankets for displaced children as well as coaching youth basketball players. "Kamorea Arnold is a once-in-a-lifetime, generational type of player," said Derek Woelffer, head coach at Menomonee Falls High. "She's flashy and skilled, but she makes everything look easy and smooth. She's easily the most dynamic player I've coached against or seen on film."

Arnold has maintained a 3.13 GPA in the classroom. She will begin her junior year of high school 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.

Arnold joins recent Gatorade Wisconsin Girls Basketball Players of the Year Lexi Donarski (2019-20, Aquinas High School), McKenna Warnock (2018-19, Monona Grove High School), Sydnee Roby (2017-18, Rufus King High School), and Estella Moschkau (2016-17, Edgewood High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Through Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Arnold has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national youth sports organization of their choosing. Arnold 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.