

**MATER DEI HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE CALIFORNIA GIRLS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 30, 2021) — In its 36th year of honoring the nation’s best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Brooke Demetre of Mater Dei High School** as its **2020-21 Gatorade California Girls Basketball Player of the Year**. Demetre is the fourth Gatorade California Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Mater Dei 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 Demetre as California’s best high school girls basketball player. Demetre 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-3 senior forward led the Monarchs to a 21-1 record and the finals of the Southern California Open Division tournament this past season. Demetre averaged 15.8 points, 6.2 rebounds, 2.6 assists and 1.9 steals per game. A McDonald’s All-American, she was also named a WBCA All-American and was selected for the Jordan Brand Classic. Demetre is the Trinity League MVP and was ranked as the nation’s No. 7 prospect in the Class of 2021 by Prospects Nation.

A devoted member of her church youth group, Demetre has volunteered locally on behalf of the Down Syndrome Association of Orange County. “Brooke Demetre is one of the most polished offensive players we’ve seen in a while,” said Stan DeLus, head coach at Cathedral Catholic High. “She has great vision, long range, reads the floor well and makes tough shots. Her basketball IQ is very high, and she’s an underrated defender too.”

Demetre has maintained a weighted 4.69 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on scholarship at Stanford 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.

Demetre joins recent Gatorade California Girls Basketball Players of the Year Te-Hina Paopao (2019-20, La Jolla Country Day School), Haley Jones (2018-19 & 2017-18, Archbishop Mitty High School), and Destiny Littleton (2016-17, The Bishop’s School), among the state’s list of former award winners.

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

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