

**CONWAY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE ARKANSAS GIRLS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (March 9, 2022) — In its 37th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Chloe Clardy** of **Conway High School** is the **2021-22 Gatorade Arkansas Girls Basketball Player of the Year**. Clardy is the second Gatorade Arkansas Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Conway 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 court, distinguishes Clardy as Arkansas' 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 March, Clardy joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Skylar Diggins-Smith (2008-09, Washington High School, Ind.), Nneka Ogumike (2007-08, CyFair 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 junior guard had led the Wampus Cats to a 29-1 record and the Class 6A quarterfinals at the time of her selection. Clardy averaged 23.0 points, 7.0 rebounds, 3.4 steals and 2.6 assists through 30 games. A two-time All-State and All-Conference honoree, she was selected to the All-Arkansas Preps Second Team as a sophomore.

Clardy has volunteered locally on behalf of a homeless shelter and youth basketball programs. "Chloe Clardy is a tremendous basketball player," said Brad Matthews, head coach at Bryant High School. "She has a special ability as a scorer and she can also cause all kinds of problems on the defensive end."

Clardy has maintained a 3.89 GPA in the classroom. She will begin her senior year of high school 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 leverages experts including coaches, scouts, media and others as sources to help evaluate and determine the state winners in each sport.

Clardy joins recent Gatorade Arkansas Girls Basketball Players of the Year Jersey Wolfenbarger (2020-21 & 2019-20, NorthHigh Schoolide High School), Sasha Goforth (2018-19, Fayetteville High School), and Christyn Williams (2017-18, Central Arkansas Christian School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Gatorade has a long-standing history of serving athlete communities and understands how sports instill valuable lifelong skills on and off the court. Through Gatorade's "Play it Forward" platform, Clardy has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national organization of their choosing that helps young athletes realize the benefits of playing sports. Clardy is also eligible to submit a short 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 \$3.5 million across more than 1,300 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 or follow us on social media on Facebook at facebook.com/GatoradePOY, Instagram at instagram.com/Gatorade and Twitter at twitter.com/Gatorade.

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