

**FREMONT HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE NEBRASKA 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 **Taylor McCabe** of **Fremont High School** is the **2021-22 Gatorade Nebraska Girls Basketball Player of the Year**. McCabe is the third Gatorade Nebraska Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Fremont 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 McCabe as Nebraska'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 March, McCabe 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 senior guard had led the Tigers to a 24-2 record and a berth in the Class A state tournament at the time of her selection. McCabe averaged 21.3 points, 5.6 rebounds, 3.4 assists and 2.7 steals through 26 games. The state's career three-point leader, she also holds the Class A career scoring record—entering the postseason with 2,251 career points—and was named to both the Lincoln Journal Star Super-State Team and the Omaha World-Herald All-Nebraska team.

Also a track standout, McCabe has volunteered locally on behalf of her church's youth group and children's basketball camps. "Taylor McCabe is a really tough player to guard," said Ryan Psota, head coach at Pius X High School. "She has a very quick release and she can score from so many different levels. She's made more threes than anyone in the history of the state, and she's their best defensive player as well. Just a matchup nightmare."

McCabe has maintained a 4.31 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on scholarship at the University of Iowa 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.

McCabe joins recent Gatorade Nebraska Girls Basketball Players of the Year Alexis Markowski (2020-21, Pius X High School), Morgan Maly (2019-20, Crete High School), Jayme Horan (2018-19, Millard South High School), and Quinn Weidemann (2017-18, Westside High 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, McCabe 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. McCabe 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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