

**JUDGE MEMORIAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE UTAH 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 **Teya Sidberry** of **Judge Memorial Catholic High School** is the **2021-22 Gatorade Utah Girls Basketball Player of the Year**. Sidberry is the second Gatorade Utah Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Judge Memorial Catholic 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 Sidberry as Utah'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, Sidberry 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, 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 6-foot-1 senior forward led the Bulldogs to a perfect 27-0 record and the Class 3A state championship this past season. Sidberry averaged 33.7 points, 12.6 rebounds and 5.4 steals, concluding her prep career with a state-record 2,534 points. Also the state's single-game points record-holder (56), she is a four-time First Team All-State selection and the Class 3A Player of the Year.

Sidberry has served in her school's student council and has volunteered locally making gift bags for healthcare workers. "I've coached against the top schools and players in Utah for the last four years and there hasn't been a player better than Teya Sidberry," said Sterling Mack, head coach at Morgan High School. "She's a future WNBA player, and I've said that since the first time I coached against her."

Sidberry has maintained a weighted 4.30 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on scholarship at the University of Utah 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.

Sidberry joins recent Gatorade Utah Girls Basketball Players of the Year Emma Calvert (2020-21, Fremont High School), Kennady McQueen (2019-20, North Summit High School), Kemery Martin (2018-19, Corner Canyon High School), and Lauren Gustin (2017-18, Salem Hills 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, Sidberry 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. Sidberry 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.