SKYVIEW HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE MONTANA GIRLS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (March 8, 2023) — In its 38th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Breanna Williams** of **Skyview High School** is the **2022-23 Gatorade Montana Girls Basketball Player of the Year**. Williams is the first Gatorade Montana Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Skyview 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 Williams as Montana's best high school girls basketball player. Williams joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Kiki Rice (2021-22, Sidwell Friends School, Washington, D.C.), Paige Bueckers (2019-20, Hopkins High School, Minn.), Nneka Ogwumike (2007-08, CyFair High School, Texas), and Candace Parker (2003-04 & 2002-03, Naperville Central High School, Ill.).

At the time of her selection, the 6-foot-2 junior forward had led the Falcons to a 16-3 record and a berth in the Class AA Eastern Divisional Tournament semifinals. Williams averaged 22.4 points, 11.2 rebounds, 2.8 assists and 1.6 steals per game through 19 games. The 2022 Class AA Tournament MVP, she is a two-time Class AA First Team All-State selection.

Williams is a long-time volunteer at Stroke Camp in Red Lodge, working with survivors and their caregivers. She has also donated her time locally with the Special Olympics and as a youth basketball coach. "Breanna is such a special talent in the state of Montana," said Kati Mobley, head coach of Bozeman High School. "She has expanded her game so much in the last year. As opposing coaches, we know that she can take over a game at any time and is very hard to stop."

Williams has maintained a weighted 4.10 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.

Williams joins recent Gatorade Montana Girls Basketball Players of the Year Mya Hansen (2021-22, Billings Central Catholic High School), Dani Bartsch (2020-21, Capital High School), Kyndall Keller (2019-20, Havre High School), and Jamie Pickens (2018-19, Helena High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Being a Gatorade Player of the Year means paying it forward for the next generation. Through Gatorade's Play it Forward initiative, every Player of the Year receives a grant to give to one of Gatorade's social impact partners, supporting Gatorade's ambition to fuel the future of sport. To date, Gatorade Player of the Year winners' grants have totaled more than \$3.5 million across more than 1,300 organizations.

For nearly 40 years, Gatorade has honored high school athletes at the top of their game as teammates, supporting their communities and achieving academic success. From CEOs and coaches to star athletes and community leaders, Gatorade Player of the Year winners showcase the power of sport.

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/Gatorade and Twitter at twitter.com/Gatorade.