

**PRINCETON HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE OHIO 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 **Sole Williams** of **Princeton High School** is the **2022-23 Gatorade Ohio Girls Basketball Player of the Year**. Williams is the second Gatorade Ohio Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Princeton 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 Ohio'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 5-foot-8 senior guard had led the Vikings to a 25-2 record and a berth in the Division I regional championship game. Williams averaged 20.5 points, 3.8 steals, 3.3 rebounds and 3.1 assists per contest through 27 games. A 2022 Division I First Team All-State selection, she's ranked as the nation's No. 31 recruit in the Class of 2023 by Blue Star Basketball and entered the regional final with 1,375 points in her prep basketball career.

Williams has volunteered locally as an elementary school aide and as a youth basketball coach. "Sole' is a bona fide superstar," said Chris Gramke, head coach of Oak Hills High School. "She is one of the best players I've ever seen play or had to prepare for. Nobody is unstoppable, but this young lady is close. She's a game-changer."

Williams has maintained a weighted 3.38 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a national letter of intent to play basketball on scholarship at Texas A&M 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 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 Ohio Girls Basketball Players of the Year Chance Gray (2021-22, Winton Woods High School), KK Bransford (2020-21, Mount Notre Dame High School), Madeline Westbeld (2019-20, Kettering Fairmont High School), and Jordan Horston (2018-19, Columbus Africentric Early College 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/GatoradePOY, Instagram at instagram.com/Gatorade and Twitter at twitter.com/Gatorade.

###