

**LONE PEAK HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE UTAH 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 **Kailey Woolston** of **Lone Peak High School** is the **2022-23 Gatorade Utah Girls Basketball Player of the Year**. Woolston is the first Gatorade Utah Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Lone Peak 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 Woolston as Utah’s best high school girls basketball player. Woolston 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-11 senior guard had led the Knights to a 22-3 record and the Class 6A state final. Woolston averaged 20.8 points, 7.9 rebounds, 2.1 assists, 1.8 steals and 0.4 blocks through 25 games. The highest career scorer in Lone Peak history, she earned Vincent Cannizzaro Division All-Tournament honors at the Nike Tournament of Champions. She’s also a three-time Region 4 MVP and First Team All-State selection in addition earning Class 6A State Player of the Year in 2022.

Woolston is an accomplished concert pianist, completing 500 consecutive days of practice and receiving the highest recognition by judges at an annual federation event for the past six years. She has volunteered locally for Island Teens Advocacy Team, helping communities educate teenagers about the dangers of tobacco use, in addition to serving as a member of the Knights of the Roundtable school leadership team and the National Honor Society. “She can score off the dribble and is a fearless player who does a good job of creating her own shot,” said Terri Bamford, head coach at La Jolla Country Day High School. “Plus, she has great range and shoots it with confidence. And you can’t lose track of her on defense, because she also moves well without the ball.”

Woolston has maintained a 4.0 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on scholarship at Brigham Young 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.

Woolston joins recent Gatorade Utah Girls Basketball Players of the Year Teya Sidberry (2021-22, Judge Memorial Catholic High School), Emma Calvert (2020-21, Fremont High School), Kennady McQueen (2019-20, North Summit High School), and Kemery Martin (2018-19, Corner Canyon 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.