WHEELING PARK HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE WEST VIRGINIA 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 **Alexis Bordas** of **Wheeling Park High School** is the **2022-23 Gatorade West Virginia Girls Basketball Player of the Year**. Bordas is the first Gatorade West Virginia Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Wheeling Park 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 Bordas as West Virginia's best high school girls basketball player. Bordas 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.).

The 5-foot-8 sophomore guard had led the Patriots to a 23-2 record and the No. 1 seed in the AAAA state tournament at the time of her selection. Bordas averaged 20.2 points, 1.9 assists, 3.9 steals and 4.9 rebounds per game through 25 contests, shooting 87.3 percent from the free throw line. She passed the 1,000-point barrier for career points earlier this season, becoming the first player in school history to do so as a sophomore.

Bordas has volunteered locally wrapping gifts and collecting food for the needy during the holiday season. She also has donated her time as the host of a free youth basketball clinic for girls in the community. "Alexis is a dominant player," said Amy Serevicz, head coach at Brooke High School. "She has a great shot and she's a skilled ball handler. She shares the ball well with her team and doesn't try to do everything herself. She's also dedicated to the sport and has a great work ethic."

Bordas has maintained a 4.57 GPA in the classroom. She will begin her junior year of high school this fall.

The <u>Gatorade Player of the Year</u> 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.

Bordas joins recent Gatorade West Virginia Girls Basketball Players of the Year Dionna Gray (2021-22, Huntington High School), Marley Washenitz (2020-21, Fairmont Senior High School), Grace Hutson (2019-20, St. Joseph Central Catholic High School), and Emily Saunders (2018-19, Wyoming East 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.