GREENWOOD HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE ARKANSAS GIRLS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (March 14, 2024) — In its 39th year of honoring the nation's most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Anna Trusty** of **Greenwood High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade Arkansas Girls Basketball Player of the Year**. Trusty is the first Gatorade Arkansas Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Greenwood High School.

The award, which celebrates the nation's top high school athletes for excellence on the court, in the classroom and in the community, distinguishes Trusty as Arkansas' best high school girls basketball player. From CEOs and coaches to star athletes, Gatorade Player of the Year winners showcase the power of sport, touting an all-star group of alumni that includes Candace Parker (2003-04, 2002-03 & 2001-02, Naperville Central High School, Ill.), Paige Bueckers (2017-18, Hopkins High School, Minn.) and Juju Watkins (2022-23 & 2021-22, Sierra Canyon School, Calif.).

At the time of her selection, the 6-foot senior guard/forward had led the Bulldogs to a 28-4 record and a berth in the 5A state championship game. Greenwood's career scoring leader with more than 1,800 points, Trusty averaged 19.9 points, 6.2 rebounds, 2.3 assists and 3.6 steals through 30 games. A 5A All-State selection, she entered the state final looking to lead the Bulldogs to a 3-peat.

A National Honor Society member, Trusty has volunteered locally on behalf of the Special Olympics as well as a variety of youth basketball camps. She has also donated her time to multiple community service initiatives through her church youth group. "Trusty is the best player we faced this season," said Vic Rimmer, Fayetteville High School head coach. "She has such length that she uses to her advantage on offense and defense. She's very smart and active the entire game, and the difficult shots she makes are amazing."

Trusty has maintained a 4.06 GPA in the classroom. She remains undecided upon a collegiate destination.

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.

Trusty joins recent Gatorade Arkansas Girls Basketball Players of the Year Chloe Clardy (2022-23 & 2021-22, Conway High School) and Jersey Wolfenbarger (2020-21 & 2019-20, Northside High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

As part of Gatorade's commitment to breaking down barriers in sport, every Player of the Year also receives a grant to donate to a social impact partner. To date, Gatorade Player of the Year winners' grants have totaled more than \$4.9 million across more than 1,600 organizations.

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.