GRANDVIEW HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE COLORADO 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 **Sienna Betts** of **Grandview High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade Colorado Girls Basketball Player of the Year**. Betts is the third Gatorade Colorado Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Grandview 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 Betts as Colorado's 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.).

The 6-foot-4 junior forward averaged 22.5 points, 15.6 rebounds, 4.6 assists, 3.3 blocks and 2.2 steals this past season, leading the Wolves (14-11) to the Class 6A state tournament round of 16. Ranked as the nation's No 3 recruit in her class by both Prospects Nation and espnW, Betts is the state's returning Gatorade Player of the Year as well as a 2024 Naismith Award semifinalist. She compiled a true shooting percentage of 66.4 this winter along with an eFG percentage of 64.6.

Betts has volunteered locally on behalf of the Special Olympics and the Ronald McDonald House. She has also donated her time assisting at youth basketball camps. "Sienna is the most physically dominant post player in her class," said Kevin Lynch, Senior National Talent Evaluator for the Blue Star Report. "Her improvement curve has been impressive and she is not afraid to bang. Her efficiency and her relentless rebounding really set her apart in Colorado."

Betts has maintained a 4.33 weighted GPA in the classroom. She has made a verbal commitment to play basketball on scholarship at UCLA beginning in the fall of 2025.

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.

Two-time winner Betts joins recent Gatorade Colorado Girls Basketball Players of the Year Lauren Betts (2021-22 & 2020-21, Grandview High School) and Jana Van Gytenbeek (2019-20, Cherry Creek 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/GatoradePOY, Instagram at instagram.com/Gatorade and Twitter at twitter.com/Gatorade.