LINCOLN COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE ILLINOIS 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 **Kloe Froebe** of **Lincoln Community High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade Illinois Girls Basketball Player of the Year**. Froebe is the first Gatorade Illinois Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Lincoln Community 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 Froebe as Illinois' 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 5-foot-9 senior guard led the Railsplitters to a 38-0 record and the Class 3A state championship this past season. Froebe averaged 28.7 points, 6.6 rebounds, 5.2 steals and 4.8 assists, and she poured in a title-game record 36 points to go with six assists in Lincoln's 60-44 win over Glenwood High School in the state final. A four-time Class 3A First Team All-State selection, she was the runner-up for Ms. Basketball as a junior. She scored 1,063 points as a senior and concluded her prep basketball career at No. 5 in state history with 3,262 points.

A three-year class president and now the student body president at Lincoln Community High School, Froebe is a member of the Future Business Leaders of America. She has volunteered locally as part of multiple fundraising campaigns to benefit St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, and she has donated her time as a youth basketball coach and at a food pantry. "Kloe Froebe really is an unbelievable basketball player," said Brandon Rose, head coach of Rochester High School. "As an opposing coach, you hate going up against her, but you love watching her play. She has no weaknesses to her game."

Froebe has maintained a weighted 4.92 GPA in the classroom and ranks No. 1 in her class. She has signed a national letter of intent to play basketball on scholarship at Colorado State University 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.

Froebe joins recent Gatorade Illinois Girls Basketball Players of the Year Lenee Beaumont (2022-23, Benet Academy), Katy Eidle (2021-22, John Hersey High School), Greta Kampschroeder (2020-21, Naperville North High School) and Angela Dugalic (2019-20, Maine West 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 studentathletes, visit playeroftheyear.gatorade.com or follow us on social media on Facebook at <u>facebook.com/GatoradePOY</u>, Instagram at <u>instagram.com/Gatorade</u> and Twitter at <u>twitter.com/Gatorade</u>.