## LAWRENCE CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE INDIANA GIRLS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

**CHICAGO** (March 14, 2024) — In its 39<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Jaylah Lampley** of **Lawrence Central High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade Indiana Girls Basketball Player of the Year**. Lampley is the first Gatorade Indiana Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Lawrence Central 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 Lampley as Indiana'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-1 junior wing led the Bears (30-1) to the Class 4A state championship this past season. Lampley averaged 18.0 points, 5.9 rebounds and 2.1 steals per game and recorded 19 points and nine rebounds in Central's 55-28 win over Lake Central High School in the state final. A member of the Indiana Basketball Coaches Association's Underclass All-State Supreme 15, Lampley is ranked as the nation's No. 49 recruit in the Class of 2025 by espnW. She concluded her junior year with 1,276 points in her prep basketball career.

Lampley serves on the Lawrence Central High School Sports Leadership Board and, in 2022, she was a recipient of the Character Counts Award from the Kiwanis Club of Castleton. "Jaylah was instrumental to LC's success these past two years," said DeeAnn Ramey, head coach of North Central High School. "She had to perform for LC to win. She really improved her outside shooting and has tremendous range. If it wasn't for her knocking down 3-point shots throughout the state tournament, LC would not have won."

Lampley has maintained a weighted 4.20 GPA in the classroom. She will begin her senior 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.

Lampley joins recent Gatorade Indiana Girls Basketball Players of the Year Laila Hull (2022-23, Zionsville Community High School), Ashlynn Shade (2021-22, Noblesville High School), Jessica Carrothers (2020-21, Crown Point High School) and Madison Layden (2019-20), Northwestern 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 <a href="mailto:facebook.com/GatoradePOY">facebook.com/GatoradePOY</a>, Instagram at <a href="mailto:instagram.com/Gatorade">instagram.com/Gatorade</a> and Twitter at <a href="mailto:twitter.com/Gatorade">twitter.com/Gatorade</a>.