

**NORTH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE IOWA 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 **Divine Bourrage** of **North High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade Iowa Girls Basketball Player of the Year**. Bourrage is the first Gatorade Iowa Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from North 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 Bourrage as Iowa’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 junior combo guard averaged 19.8 points, 9.3 rebounds, 5.6 assists and three steals this past season, leading the Wildcats (22-3) to the Class 5A state tournament quarterfinals. Ranked as the nation’s No. 9 prospect in the Class of 2025 by espnW, Bourrage was a 2024 Class 5A All-State selection in addition to being an All-Tournament Team honoree. She scored 24 points, pulled down 11 rebounds, passed for four assists and recorded four steals in Davenport North’s round-of-eight loss to Cedar Falls.

Bourrage has volunteered locally working with special needs children and she has also donated her time as an instructor for youth basketball athletes. “Divine Bourrage is not only one of the top players in Iowa, but she’s also one of the Top 10 players in the country in her class,” said Anthony Pappas, head coach at Waterloo West High School. “She is a great all-around talent—including on the defensive end. She is certainly worthy of the Gatorade Player of the Year award this year.”

Bourrage has maintained a B average in the classroom. She will begin her senior year of high school this fall.

The [Gatorade Player of the Year](#) 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.

Bourrage joins recent Gatorade Iowa Girls Basketball Players of the Year Kelsey Joens (2022-23, West Liberty High School), Hannah Stuelke (2021-22, Washington High School), Katie Dinnebier (2020-21, Waukeg High School) and Caitlin Clark (2019-20), Dowling Catholic 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.

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