## SKYVIEW HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE MONTANA 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 Breanna Williams of Skyview High School is the 2023-24 Gatorade Montana Girls Basketball Player of the Year. Williams is the first Gatorade Montana Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Skyview 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 Williams as Montana'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 state's returning Gatorade Player of the Year, the 6-foot-2 senior forward led the Falcons to a 24-0 record and a third-straight Class AA state championship this past season. Williams averaged 25.2 points, 11.4 rebounds, 5.0 assists and 3.2 steals, and she compiled 26 points, 14 rebounds, five steals and four assists in Skyview's 54-36 win over Hellgate High in the state final. Williams is a three-time Class AA Tournament MVP and a three-time Class AA First Team All-State selection. She is ranked as the nation's No. 45 recruit in the Class of 2024 by espnW.

Williams is a long-time volunteer at Stroke Camp in Red Lodge, working with survivors and their caregivers. She has also donated her time locally with the Special Olympics and as a youth basketball coach. "Breanna has been an excellent team player this year," said Jason Amundsen, head coach of Billings West High School. "She is the catalyst for her team. Breanna is a complete player—she handles the ball, scores, facilitates and plays the center of their zone defense."

Williams has maintained a weighted 4.10 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a national letter of intent to play basketball on scholarship at the University of Maryland 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.

Two-time winner Williams joins recent Gatorade Montana Girls Basketball Players of the Year Mya Hansen (2021-22, Billings Central Catholic High School), Dani Bartsch (2020-21, Capital High School) and Kyndall Keller (2019-20, Havre 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/Gatorade">facebook.com/Gatorade</a>POY, 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>.