WESTTOWN SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE PENNSYLVANIA 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 **Jordyn Palmer** of **Westtown School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade Pennsylvania Girls Basketball Player of the Year**. Palmer is the second Gatorade Pennsylvania Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Westtown 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 Palmer as Pennsylvania'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 freshman guard and forward led the Moose to a 25-2 record and a third straight Pennsylvania Independent Athletic Association Tournament championship this past season. Palmer averaged 17.7 points, 11.3 rebounds, 5.8 assists, 4.2 blocks and 3.2 steals per game. A two-time PAISAA First Team All-State selection, she is listed as one of 11 elite prospects in the Class of 2027 by Prospects Nation.

A member of her school's Black Student Union and Mixed Student Union, Palmer works at the Westtown School dining hall and also volunteers as a babysitter. "Jordyn is the most dominant high school basketball player I've ever seen," said Ellen Bair, head coach of the Shipley School. "I felt that way even when she was an eighth-grader last year. Jordyn's ability to impact the game in every way blows you away when you watch her, especially at her age."

Palmer has maintained a B average in the classroom. She will begin her sophomore 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.

Palmer joins recent Gatorade Pennsylvania Girls Basketball Players of the Year Gabby Casey (2022-23, Lansdale Catholic High School), Kaylene Smikle (2021-22, Westtown School), Kaitlyn Orihel (2020-21, Archbishop Wood High School) and Diamond Johnson (2019-20, Saints John Neumann and Maria Goretti 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/Gatorade and Twitter at twitter.com/Gatorade.