ST. LUKE'S SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE CONNECTICUT GIRLS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (March 13, 2025) — In its 40th year of honoring the nation's most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Camdyn Nelson** of **St. Luke's School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade Connecticut Girls Basketball Player of the Year**. Nelson is the second Gatorade Connecticut Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from **St. Luke's School**.

Gatorade Player of the Year is the top honor in high school sports, celebrating the nation's best high school athletes for their success on the court, in the classroom and in the community. The award distinguishes Nelson as Connecticut's best high school girls basketball player, and she joins an impressive group of alumni that spans CEOs, coaches and star athletes such as Candace Parker (2002-03 & 2003-04, Naperville Central High School, Illinois), Paige Bueckers (2019-20, Hopkins High School, Minnesota) and Joyce Edwards (2023-24, Camden High School, South Carolina).

The 5-foot-8 senior guard had led the Storm (15-11) to the New England Preparatory School Athletic Council Class B championship game this past season. Nelson averaged 17.2 points, 5 rebounds, 5 assists and 2.7 steals, shooting 39 percent from beyond the arc. The 2023-24 NEPSAC Class B Player of the Year, she's ranked as the No. 91 player in the Class of 2025 by 247Sports.

Nelson has volunteered locally by helping organize both clothing and food drives for local homeless shelters. She has also launched her own basketball training program for youth players. "She gets it done on both ends of the floor," said Scotty Nails, head coach at Hopkins School. "There are games where she's out there running the team and getting everybody involved, and there are games where she can score 30 points."

Nelson has maintained a B-plus average in the classroom. She has signed a written letter of athletic aid to play basketball at Syracuse University this fall.

The Gatorade Player of the Year program annually recognizes one winner in the District of Columbia and each of the 50 states across 12 different high school sports – 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.

Nelson joins recent Gatorade Connecticut Girls Basketball Players of the Year Ayanna Franks (2023-24, Windsor High School), Mackenzie Nelson (2022-23 & 2021-22, St. Luke's School) and Shailyn Pinkney (2020-21, East Hartford 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, the Gatorade Player of the Year program has provided more than \$5.6 million in grants to winners across more than 2,000 organizations.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit <u>playeroftheyear.gatorade.com</u> or follow us on social media on Instagram at <u>instagram.com/Gatorade</u>. Facebook at <u>facebook.com/GatoradePOY</u> and X(Twitter) at <u>x.com/Gatorade</u>.