SKYLINE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE IDAHO 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 **Shay Shippen** of **Skyline High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade Idaho Girls Basketball Player of the Year**. Shippen is the second Gatorade Idaho Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Skyline High 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 Shippen as Idaho'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-10 senior guard/forward led the Grizzlies to a 17-10 record and a berth in the 5A state tournament this past season. Shippen averaged 23.6 points, 10.6 rebounds, 3.3 assists and 3.2 steals per game. The 5A First Team All-Tournament selection will graduate as the leading scorer in state history with 2,372 points.

Shippen has volunteered locally on behalf of the Special Olympics and youth sports camps. She has also donated her time to multiple community service initiatives through her church. "Shay is the most complete player in the state," said Jeremy Munroe, head coach at Eagle High School. "She shoots really well, she has an incredibly high IQ, she handles the ball well, she's strong, rebounds at a high level and she usually plays the best defense on the floor. Playing against her is a nightmare."

Shippen has maintained a 4.0 GPA in the classroom. She has made a verbal commitment to attend Columbia University, where she will play basketball, beginning 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.

Shippen joins recent Gatorade Idaho Girls Basketball Players of the Year Avery Howell (2023-24 & 2022-23, Boise High School), Amari Whiting (2021-22, Burley High School) and Naya Ojukwu (2020-21, Mountain View 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>.