BELLEVILLE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE MICHIGAN 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 **Sydney Savoury** of **Belleville High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade Michigan Girls Basketball Player of the Year**. Savoury is the first Gatorade Michigan Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Belleville 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 Savoury as Michigan'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).

At the time of her selection, the 6-foot sophomore guard had led the Tigers to a 23-1 record and a berth in the Division 1, Regional 4 tournament semifinals. Savoury averaged 27.7 points, 7.1 rebounds, 4.0 assists and 3.4 steals through 24 games. She had connected on 60.4 percent of her shots from the field, including 48.9 percent from 3-point land. A 2024 Division 1 First Team All-State selection by the Detroit Free Press, Savoury was the only freshman named to the 2024 Detroit News Dream Team. She is ranked as the state's No. 1 recruit in the Class of 2026 by Prep Girls Hoops.

Savoury has volunteered locally as an elementary school tutor and as a youth basketball coach. "Sydney is the most well-rounded and dominant player I've seen in the state of Michigan in a decade," said K'len Morris, head coach of Livonia Churchill High School. "She can score at all three levels on the floor, she's strong and she has an unbelievable touch. But her IQ is what really separates her. She just sees the game differently than kids at the high school level."

Savoury has maintained a 3.64 GPA in the classroom. She will begin her junior 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 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.

Savoury joins recent Gatorade Michigan Girls Basketball Players of the Year Summer Davis (2023-24, West Bloomfield High School), Indya Davis (2022-23, West Bloomfield High School), Ruby Whitehorn (2021-22, Detroit Edison Public School Academy) and Bree Salenbien (2020-21, Lenawee Christian 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>.