

## **CENTENNIAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE NEVADA GIRLS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

**CHICAGO** (March 13, 2025) — In its 40<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation’s most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Nation Williams** of **Centennial High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade Nevada Girls Basketball Player of the Year**. Williams is the ninth Gatorade Nevada Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Centennial 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 Williams as Nevada'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 6-foot-2 sophomore forward averaged 17.3 points and 10.4 rebounds this past season, leading the Bulldogs (23-2) to the Class 5A state title. Williams added 3.5 assists, 2.5 steals and 1.5 blocks per game and sank 54 percent of her field goal attempts. Ranked as the nation’s No. 10 recruit in her class by 247 Sports, she scored 18 points and recorded 16 rebounds in the state championship game.

A member of her school’s student council, Williams has donated her time locally as a scorekeeper at youth basketball tournaments and as youth coach. She has also volunteered as a model for the Las Vegas Aces “Raise the Stakes” merchandising campaign. At her school, she serves as a peer tutor and works with the Best Buddies program supporting special needs students. “Nation is one of the top players to come out of Nevada in the state’s history,” said Centennial High School head coach Karen Weitz. “She is a matchup nightmare at 6-2 with her skill set and because of how hard she competes. She draws double- and triple-teams and handles the pressure like a player beyond her years. It’s rare to find a kid her size and age who has made such an impact so soon.”

Williams has maintained a 3.78 weighted GPA in the classroom. She will begin her junior year of high school 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.

Williams joins recent Gatorade Nevada Girls Basketball Players of the Year Aaliah Spaight (2023-24, Bishop Gorman High School), Ali'a Matavao (2022-23 & 2021-22, Liberty High School) and Taylor Bigby (2020-21, Centennial 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 [playeroftheyear.gatorade.com](http://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com) or follow us on social media on Instagram at [instagram.com/Gatorade](https://www.instagram.com/Gatorade), Facebook at [facebook.com/GatoradePOY](https://www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY) and X(Twitter) at [x.com/Gatorade](https://x.com/Gatorade).