

**RIDGELINE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE UTAH 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 **Emilee Skinner** of **Ridgeline High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade Utah Girls Basketball Player of the Year**. Skinner is the first Gatorade Utah Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Ridgeline 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 Skinner as Utah'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 state’s returning Gatorade Player of the Year, the 6-foot senior guard led the Riverhawks to a 28-0 record and a third-straight Class 4A state title this past season. Skinner averaged 26.3 points, 10.2 rebounds, 5.0 assists, 3.8 steals and 1.5 blocks and she posted 21 points and nine rebounds in a 65-46 win over Snow Canyon High School in the state final, marking the program’s 50th consecutive victory. A McDonald’s All-American Game selection, she was a member of the Naismith Award Midseason Team and the MaxPreps National Player of the Year watch list. Ranked as the nation’s No. 6 recruit in the Class of 2025 by Prospects Nation, she concluded her prep basketball career with 2,305 points—good for No. 4 in state history.

Skinner has volunteered locally on behalf of the Cache Valley Rotary Club, the Children’s Justice Center in Logan, the Special Olympics, Feed My Starving Children and Loaves and Fishes. She has also donated her time by visiting local retirement and nursing facilities to serve as a companion to residents. “I don’t even know where to start with Emilee,” said Charlotte MacFarlane, head coach of Westlake High School. “She is an amazing athlete and an incredible basketball player. The thing that makes her most dangerous is that she not only can score from anywhere on the court, but she’s also a willing and capable facilitator.”

Skinner has maintained a 3.95 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a written letter of athletic aid to play basketball at Duke 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.

Two-time winner Skinner joins recent Gatorade Utah Girls Basketball Players of the Year Kailey Woolston (2022-23, Lone Peak High School), Teya Sidberry (2021-22, Judge Memorial Catholic High School) and Emma Calvert (2020-21, Fremont 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).

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