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**STATION CAMP HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE TENNESSEE BOYS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 6, 2018) — In its 33rd year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, today announced Atakelti Gebregzabher of Station Camp High School as its 2017-18 Gatorade Tennessee Boys Soccer Player of the Year. Gebregzabher is the first Gatorade Tennessee Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Station Camp High School.

The award, which recognizes not only outstanding athletic excellence, but also high standards of academic achievement and exemplary character demonstrated on and off the field, distinguishes Gebregzabher as Tennessee's best high school boys soccer player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Boys Soccer Player of the Year award to be announced in June, Gebregzabher joins an elite alumni association of past state soccer award-winners, including Alexi Lalas (1987-88, Cranbrook HS, Mich.), Steve Cherundolo (1996-97, Mt. Carmel HS, Calif.), Abby Wambach (1997-98, Our Lady of Mercy, N.Y.), Heather O'Reilly (2001-02, 2002-03, East Brunswick HS, N.J.), Matt Besler (2004-04, Blue Valley West HS, Kans.), Jack Harrison (2013-14, Berkshire HS, Mass.), Mallory Pugh (2014-15, Mountain Vista HS, Colo.).

The 5-foot-11, 160-pound senior midfielder and forward led the Bison to a 23-2-1 record and a second straight Division I, Class AAA state championship this past season. Gebregzabher scored 16 goals and passed for eight assists. A three-time All-County selection and a finalist for The Tennessean's Boys Soccer Player of the Year award, he concluded his prep soccer career with 51 goals and 32 assists.

A native of Eritrea, Gebregzabher spent four years in a refugee camp in Ethiopia before coming to the United States in 2010. He has volunteered locally as a youth soccer coach. "Atakelti was dangerous in the attack partly because of his speed," said Danny Chartrand, head coach of Rossvie High. "He worked back defensively as well. He was one of the keys for Station Camp."

Gebregzabher has maintained a 3.63 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a national letter of intent to play soccer on scholarship at the University of Memphis 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 that sanction high school 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 work with top sport-specific experts and a media advisory board of accomplished, veteran prep sports journalists to determine the state winners in each sport.

Gebregzabher joins recent Gatorade Tennessee Boys Soccer Players of the Year Drew Viscomi (2016-17, McCallie School), Lucas Altman (2015-16, Science Hill High School), Johnny Heckman (2014-15, Centennial High School), Brad Ross (2013-14, Franklin High School), Trey Gill (2012-13, Montgomery Bell Academy), Tim Baker (2011-12, Knoxville Catholic High School), Chandler Gagnon (2010-11 & 2009-10, Evangelical Christian School), Mark Sherrod (2008-09, Carter High School), Stephen Morrissey (2007-08, Battle Ground Academy), and Tom Webster (2006-07, Bearden High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a Gatorade Player of the Year, Gebregzabher will be able to select a national or local youth sports organization to receive a grant as part of the Gatorade Play It Forward program. Every Gatorade Player of the Year state winner receives a \$1,000 grant to donate and will have the opportunity to enter for an additional \$10,000 spotlight grant by writing a brief essay explaining why their selected organization deserves additional support. 12 spotlight grants - one for each sport - will be announced throughout the year.

To keep up to date on the latest happenings, become a fan of Gatorade Player of the Year on Facebook and follow us on Twitter. For more on the Gatorade Player of the Year program, including nomination information, a complete list of past winners and the announcement of the Gatorade National Player of the Year, visit www.gatorade.com/poy.

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