

## SEATTLE PREPARATORY SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE WASHINGTON GIRLS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR

**CHICAGO** (June 13, 2019) — In its 34<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company today announced **Bea Franklin of Seattle Preparatory School** as its **2018-19 Gatorade Washington Girls Soccer Player of the Year**. Franklin is the second Gatorade Washington Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Seattle Preparatory 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 Franklin as Washington's best high school girls soccer player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Girls Soccer Player of the Year award to be announced in June, Franklin joins an elite alumni association of past state soccer award-winners, including Alexi Lalas (1987-88, Cranbrook High School, Mich.), Steve Cherundolo (1996-97, Mt. Carmel High School, Calif.), Abby Wambach (1997-98, Our Lady of Mercy School for Young Women, N.Y.), Heather O'Reilly (2001-02, 2002-03, East Brunswick High School, N.J.), Matt Besler (2004-05, Blue Valley West High School, Kans.), Jack Harrison (2013-14, Berkshire High School, Mass.) and Mallory Pugh (2014-15, Mountain Vista High School, Colo.).

The 5-foot-10 senior defender and forward scored 12 goals and passed for five assists this past season, leading the Panthers (19-2) to the Class 3A state tournament quarterfinals. She also anchored a defense that allowed just 12 goals in 21 games. The Seattle Times Player of the Year, Franklin is also a three-time All-State selection and participated in the High School All-American Game. She concluded her prep soccer career with 59 goals and 26 assists.

A class officer during all four years of high school, Franklin has volunteered locally at a women's shelter and as part of community beautification projects. "Besides Bea's athleticism, she is charismatic and genuine," said Andy Hendricks, head coach of Seattle Preparatory School. "She will out-work and out-play her opposition. She is a competitor."

Franklin has maintained a weighted 3.89 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on scholarship at the University of Notre Dame 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. From the 12 national winners, one male and one female athlete are each named Gatorade High School Athlete of the Year. In all, 607 athletes are honored each year.

Franklin joins recent Gatorade Washington Girls Soccer Players of the Year Summer Yates (2017-18, Chiawana High School), Jojo Harber (2016-17, Bellevue High School), Sam Hiatt (2015-16, Seattle Preparatory School) and Kelsey Turnbow (2014-15 & 2013-14, Central Valley High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a part of Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Franklin also has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national youth sports organization of her choosing. She is also eligible to submit an essay to win one of twelve \$10,000 spotlight grants for the organization of choice, which will be announced throughout the year.

Since the program's inception in 1985, Gatorade Player of the Year award recipients have won hundreds of professional and college championships, and many have also turned into pillars in their communities, becoming coaches, business owners and educators.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit [www.Gatorade.com/POY](http://www.Gatorade.com/POY), on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY](https://www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY) or follow us on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/Gatorade](https://www.twitter.com/Gatorade).

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