

NORTHERN BURLINGTON COUNTY REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE NEW JERSEY GIRLS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 18, 2026) — In its 41st year celebrating the nation’s best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced Gianna Hanf of Northern Burlington County Regional High School is the 2025-26 Gatorade New Jersey Girls Soccer Player of the Year.

Gatorade Player of the Year is the top honor in high school sports, celebrating the nation’s best high school athletes for their excellence in sport, academics and community. The award recognizes Hanf as New Jersey’s best high school girls soccer player, and she joins an elite legacy that spans professional athletes and coaches to CEOs, such as Mallory Swanson (2014-15, Mountain Vista High School, Colorado), Riley Jackson (2021-22, Blessed Trinity Catholic High School, Georgia) and Addison Halpern (2024-25, Rutgers Preparatory School, New Jersey).

The 5-foot-6 junior midfielder led the Greyhounds to a 16-5-2 record and the Group 3 tournament semifinals this past season. Hanf scored 36 goals and passed for five assists, setting the school’s single-season scoring record in the process. Hanf has represented Team USA at the U-14 and U-17 level and has trained with Gotham FC in the NWSL. Ranked as nation’s No. 7 recruit in her class by TopDrawer Soccer, she was the Central New Jersey Player of the Year as well as a 2025 United Soccer Coaches All-American selection.

Hanf has volunteered locally with the Down Syndrome Association of Central NJ/Club Dreams in addition to donating her time cleaning up trash with her high school team. Also a member of the Interact Club at her school, she works directly with Rotary International as a part of community-building and service projects. “Gianna Hanf is the best and most complete player I’ve seen play in my 24 years of coaching high school girls soccer,” said Drew Wagner, head coach of Shawnee High School. “I had the pleasure of seeing her play several times over the last three years in the summer leagues and in the fall high school season, including playing against her in the tournament. She is dominant technically, tactically and physically. She’s incredibly strong and fast on the ball, she can create her own shot and she’s also an amazingly unselfish playmaker. Gianna is the most exciting female player I’ve ever seen in person.”

Hanf has maintained an A average in the classroom. She has made a verbal commitment to play soccer on scholarship at the University of North Carolina beginning in the fall of 2027.

The [Gatorade Player of the Year](#) program annually recognizes one state winner from each of the 50 states and Washington D.C., in 12 different sports: football, girls volleyball, boys and girls cross country, boys and girls basketball, baseball, softball, boys and girls soccer, and boys and girls track & field. In total, 610 high school athletes are honored each year. From the pool of state winners, one national winner is selected in each of the 12 sports. 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 winners in each sport.

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 \$6.4 million in grants to winners across more than 2,200 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 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.

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