

## ARROWHEAD HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE WISCONSIN GIRLS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 18, 2026) — In its 41<sup>st</sup> year celebrating the nation’s best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced Amara Leppla of Arrowhead High School is the 2025-26 Gatorade Wisconsin 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 Leppla as Wisconsin’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-5 senior midfielder has led the Warhawks to a 16-3 record and the Division 1 Sectional Final this past season. Leppla scored 39 goals and passed for 8 assists, breaking the school record for single-season goals. She netted four goals to beat Oshkosh West, 6-0, in the WIAA Regional Final. She’s a three-time Second Team All-Conference selection and has led her club team to two Girls Academy League finals qualifications.

Leppla has volunteered locally with the Salvation Army. She has also donated her time as a youth soccer coach. “Amara is without question one of if not the most talented and dominant soccer player I’ve ever coached against,” said Haddie Holz, head coach of Oconomowoc High School. “What separates her from other elite players is her ability to impact every area of the field. She is explosive in transition, dangerous in tight spaces and incredibly technical on the ball. Beyond her elite talent, Amara’s determination and sportsmanship speak volumes about her character. Every coach dreams of having a player like Amara—someone who is not only exceptionally talented, but also gives relentless effort and leads by example every time she steps on the field. She’s a true game changer; the most complete player I’ve seen at the high school level.”

Leppla has maintained a 3.98 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a written letter of athletic aid to play soccer on scholarship at Eastern Illinois University this fall.

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](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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