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Cumberland Valley High School STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE Pennsylvania GIRLS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR

**CHICAGO** (February 4, 2016) — In its 31st year of honoring the nation’s best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced **Rachael Dorwart of Cumberland Valley High School** as its **2015-16 Gatorade Pennsylvania Girls Soccer Player of the Year**. Dorwart is the second Gatorade Pennsylvania Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Cumberland Valley 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 Dorwart as Pennsylvania’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 May, Dorwart joins an elite alumni association of past state award-winners in 12 sports, including Abby Wambach (1997-98, Our Lady of Mercy, N.Y.), Derek Jeter (1991-92, Kalamazoo HS, Mich.), Candace Parker (2001-02, Naperville Central HS, Ill.), Alexi Lalas (1987-88, Cranbrook HS, Mich.), Heather O’Reilly (2001-02, East Brunswick HS, N.J.) and Mark Sanchez (2004-05, Mission Viejo HS, Calif.).

The 5-foot-8 sophomore midfielder scored 47 goals and passed for 12 assists this past season, leading the Eagles (24-2) to the Class AAA state semifinals. The 2015 All-Sentinel Player of the Year and the Mid-Penn Conference Co-Player of the Year, Dorwart missed two games early in the season as an invitee to a training camp with the U.S. Soccer Under-17 Women’s National Team. Rated as the No. 4 recruit in the Class of 2018 by TopDrawerSoccer.com, she concluded her sophomore year with 63 goals and 22 assists in her prep soccer career.

Dorwart has maintained an A average in the classroom. She has volunteered locally as part of an anti-bullying campaign and as a youth soccer coach.

“Rachael Dorwart is an awesome player,” said Koren McKay, head coach of Cedar Cliff High. “She is fit, fast and aggressive. She can play anywhere on the field. What makes her most dangerous is that she is not afraid to go at any defender and get to goal. Her finishing skills are tremendous.”

Dorwart has made a verbal commitment to play soccer on an athletic scholarship at the University of North Carolina beginning in the fall of 2018.

The [Gatorade Player of the Year](http://www.gatorade.com/poy/overview.aspx) 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 high school sports leadership team in partnership with [USA TODAY High School Sports](http://www.usatodayhss.com/customize), 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.

Dorwart joins recent Gatorade Pennsylvania Girls Soccer Players of the Year Sydney Zandi (2014-15, Henderson High School), Megan Schafer (2013-14, Neshaminy High School), Veronica Latsko (2012-13 & 2011-12, Peters Township High School), Kelly Kerrigan (2010–11, Downington High School East), Cassie Pecht (2009-10, Cumberland Valley High School), Taylor Schram (2008–09, Canon-McMillan High School), Lauren Alwine (2007-08, Lower Dauphin High School), and Colleen Flanagan (2006-07, Downingtown West High School) among the state’s list of former award winners.

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](http://www.gatorade.com/poy)*.*

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