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LINCOLN SOUTHWEST HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE NEBRASKA GIRLS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 19, 2017) — In its 32nd year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, today announced Hannah Davis of Lincoln Southwest High School as its 2016-17 Gatorade Nebraska Girls Soccer Player of the Year. Davis is the first Gatorade Nebraska Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Lincoln Southwest 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 Davis as Nebraska'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, Davis 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-2 senior forward scored 45 goals and passed for 16 assists this past season, leading the Silver Hawks (16-2) to the Class A state semifinals. Davis scored in every game but two and recorded 12 multi-goal games, including a state-record eight scores in a win over Fremont High School. The captain of the 2017 Omaha World Herald All-Nebraska team, Davis is a three-time First Team All-State selection. She concluded her prep soccer career with a state-record 117 goals.

Davis has volunteered locally as a youth soccer coach and donated her time as part of multiple community-service initiatives through Lincoln G.O.L.D, a leadership development program for high school junior and senior girls. "Hannah scored important goals in big games," said Tami Anderson, head coach of Kearney High School. "Her goal-scoring ability was something I haven't seen in a long time."

Davis has maintained a weighted 3.46 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a national letter of intent to play soccer on scholarship at Kansas State University 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.

Davis joins recent Gatorade Nebraska Girls Soccer Players of the Year Brenna Ochoa (2015-16, Millard West High School), Michelle Xiao (2014-15, Westside High School), Maddie Elliston (2013-14 & 2012-13, Marian High School), Jackie Tondl (2011-12, Marian High School), Mayme Conroy (2010-11, Skutt Catholic High School), Katie Pickinpaugh (2009-10, Millard West High School), Allie Adam (2008-09, Millard West High School), and Molly Thomas (2007-08 & 2006-07, Millard North High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a Gatorade Player of the Year, Hannah 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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