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**DAVIS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE UTAH 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 Olivia Wade of Davis High School as its 2016-17 Gatorade Utah Girls Soccer Player of the Year. Wade is the first Gatorade Utah Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Davis 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 Wade as Utah'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, Wade 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-6 junior forward and midfielder led the Darts to a 20-0 record and a third straight Class 5A state championship this past season. Wade scored 42 goals and passed for 25 assists, including a score in Davis' 2-1 win over Fremont High in the state final. Wade recorded a goal in 19 of 20 games and had an assist in 16 games. A member of the U.S. Soccer Under-17 Women's National Team, she was the Salt Lake Tribune Player of the Year and the Deseret News Class 5A MVP.

Wade has volunteered locally as part of a fundraising campaign to benefit Operation Underground Railroad, which helps prevent child sex-trafficking, and has both made and collected blankets as well as stuffed animals for victims of child abuse. She has also donated her time as a youth soccer coach. "Olivia just dominates," said Kelly Parke, head coach of Fremont High School. "She's so versatile. When they got ahead, she slid back to defend. When they need goals, she goes up top. They're a totally different team if she isn't there."

Wade has maintained a 3.58 GPA in the classroom. She has made a verbal commitment to play soccer on scholarship at Brigham Young University beginning in the fall of 2018.

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.

Wade joins recent Gatorade Utah Girls Soccer Players of the Year Holly Daugirda (2015-16, Skyline High School), Hailey Skolmoski (2014-15, Riverton High School), Bizzy Phillips (2013-14 & 2012-13, Alta High School), Michele Murphy (2011-12, Alta High School), Stephanie Verdoia (2010-11, Brighton High School), Jaiden Thornock (2009-10, Bonneville High School), Kealia Ohai (2008-09 & 2007-08, Alta High School), and Megan Ohai (2006-07, Alta High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a Gatorade Player of the Year, Olivia 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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