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## SPAIN PARK HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE ALABAMA GIRLS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR

**CHICAGO** (June 18, 2018) — In its 33<sup>rd</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, today announced **Jasmine Greene of Spain Park High School** as its **2017-18 Gatorade Alabama Girls Soccer Player of the Year**. Greene is the fifth Gatorade Alabama Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Spain Park 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 Greene as Alabama'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, Greene 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 (2004-05, Blue Valley West HS, Kans.), Jack Harrison (2013-14, Berkshire HS, Mass.) and Mallory Pugh (2014-15, Mountain Vista HS, Colo.).

The 5-foot-8 junior forward scored 29 goals and passed for 15 assists this past season, leading the Jaguars (17-6) to the second round of the Class 7A state tournament. Greene recorded nine multi-goal games and collected at least two points in 14 games. A three-time Birmingham News All-Metro First Team selection, Greene moved into a defensive role late in close games. She concluded her prep soccer career with 88 goals and 42 assists.

Greene has volunteered locally helping to organize and distribute gift bags to patients at Children's of Alabama, and she has donated her time as part of multiple community-service initiatives through her church. "Jasmine is just about the complete package," said Will Patridge, head coach of Hoover High. "She shows tremendous poise in front of and around the goal area. Jazz is so shifty and always seems to find the seams and pockets of space in the final third."

Greene has maintained a weighted 4.11 GPA in the classroom. She has made a verbal commitment to play soccer on scholarship at Furman University beginning in the fall of 2019.

The <u>Gatorade Player of the Year</u> 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.

Greene joins recent Gatorade Alabama Girls Soccer Players of the Year Eva Knapstein (2016-17, McGill-Toolen Catholic High School), Julia Pack (2015-16, Oak Mountain High School), Leigh Haynes (2014-15, Mountain Brook High School), Claudia Day (2013-14, Briarwood Christian School), Toni Payne (2012-13, Oak Mountain High School), Bailee Hartnett (2011-12, Oak Mountain High School), Simone Charley (2010-11, Spain Park High School), Annalika Steyn (2009-10, Spain Park), Lauren Arnold (2008-09, Spain Park), Mary Nicholson (2007-08, Vestavia Hills), and Victoria Frederick (2006-07, Huntsville) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a Gatorade Player of the Year, Greene 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 <a href="https://www.gatorade.com/poy">www.gatorade.com/poy</a>.