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ARLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE NEW YORK GIRLS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 18, 2018) — In its 33rd year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, today announced **Molly Feighan of Arlington High School** as its **2017-18 Gatorade New York Girls Soccer Player of the Year**. Feighan is the first Gatorade New York Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Arlington 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 Feighan as New York'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, Feighan 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-5 senior forward scored 22 goals and passed for 15 assists this past season, leading the Admirals (20-1) to the Class AA state quarterfinals. An All-American selection by United Soccer Coaches, Feighan was selected Class AA co-Player of the Year and was named to the Best XI at the High School All-American Game.

Feighan has volunteered locally on behalf of an assisted living facility, the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life and youth soccer programs. "Molly Feighan is a player who can change the game," said Rich Savage, head coach of Rye High. "Even if she's double-marked, she can find the back of the net, but she's also an unselfish player who raises the level of play of teammates around her."

Feighan has maintained an A average in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on scholarship at Virginia Tech 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.

Feighan joins recent Gatorade New York Girls Soccer Players of the Year Madisyn Pezzino (2016-17, Grand Island Senior High School), Hope Breslin (2015-16, Massapequa High School), Keri Cavallo (2014-15, South Side High School), Kayla Cappuzzo (2013-14, Calhoun High School), Alana O'Neill (2012-13, Washingtonville High School), Cari Roccaro (2011-12, East Islip High School), Tatiana Saunders (2010-11, Rye High School), Crystal Dunn (2009-10, South Side), Kim DeCesare (2008-09, Massapequa High School), Alaina Beyar (2007-08, South Side High School), and Hannah Cerrone (2006-07, Ketcham High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a Gatorade Player of the Year, Feighan 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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