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MOON AREA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE PENNSYLVANIA 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 **Delaney Snyder of Moon Area High School** as its **2017-18 Gatorade Pennsylvania Girls Soccer Player of the Year**. Snyder is the first Gatorade Pennsylvania Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Moon Area 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 Snyder 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 June, Snyder 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 led the Tigers to a 26-0 record and the Class AAA state championship this past season. Snyder scored 56 goals and passed for 27 assists, scoring the lone goal in Moon's 1-0 win over Villa Joseph Marie High in the state final. The Player of the Year for both the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette and the Pennsylvania State Coaches Association, she concluded her prep soccer career with 137 goals and 101 assists.

Snyder has volunteered locally as a youth soccer coach, and she has donated her time as part of multiple community service initiatives through her church youth group. "Delaney Snyder was by far the best player we played against," said Mark Perry, head coach of Seneca Valley High. "I scouted her team twice before we played them and tried to match someone up on her, and she still scored two goals and had an assist against us."

Snyder has maintained a 3.57 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a national letter of intent to play soccer on scholarship at the University of Miami (Ohio) 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.

Snyder joins recent Gatorade Pennsylvania Girls Soccer Players of the Year Murphy Agnew (2016-17, Villa Joseph Marie High School), Rachael Dorwart (2015-16, Cumberland Valley High School), 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, Downingtown 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.

As a Gatorade Player of the Year, Snyder 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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