

CHARTER SCHOOL OF WILMINGTON STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE DELAWARE GIRLS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 13, 2019) — In its 34th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company today announced **Sheyenne Allen of Charter School of Wilmington** as its **2018-19 Gatorade Delaware Girls Soccer Player of the Year**. Allen is the first Gatorade Delaware Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Charter School of Wilmington.

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 Allen as Delaware'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, Allen joins an elite alumni association of past state soccer award-winners, including Alexi Lalas (1987-88, Cranbrook High School, Mich.), Steve Cherundolo (1996-97, Mt. Carmel High School, Calif.), Abby Wambach (1997-98, Our Lady of Mercy School for Young Women, N.Y.), Heather O'Reilly (2001-02, 2002-03, East Brunswick High School, N.J.), Matt Besler (2004-05, Blue Valley West High School, Kans.), Jack Harrison (2013-14, Berkshire High School, Mass.) and Mallory Pugh (2014-15, Mountain Vista High School, Colo.).

The 5-foot-2 senior forward scored 25 goals and passed for 13 assists this past season, leading the Force (16-1-1) to the Division 1 state final. A five-time All-State honoree, Allen was named Player of the Year by the Delaware High School Girls Soccer Coaches Association.

Allen has volunteered locally on behalf of a soup kitchen and the U.S. Youth Soccer TOPSoccer program, serving young athletes with disabilities. "Sheyenne Allen is by far the best player we faced in the last two years," said Heather Taylor, head coach at Sanford School. "She's strong and extremely fast, but she's also patient when she has the ball at her feet and she's attacking an opponent. She's able to take players on or shoot from outside the box, which makes her unpredictable."

Allen has maintained a weighted 4.38 GPA in the classroom. She will attend Brown University this fall, where she will play soccer.

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. From the 12 national winners, one male and one female athlete are each named Gatorade High School Athlete of the Year. In all, 607 athletes are honored each year.

Allen joins recent Gatorade Delaware Girls Soccer Players of the Year Ashlee Brentlinger (2017-18, Padua Academy), Alyssa Poarch (2016-17, Middletown High School), Brooke Beam (2015-16, Indian River High School), Karlina Panella (2014-15, Padua Academy) and Alexis Prillaman (2013-14, Caesar Rodney High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a part of Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Allen also has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national youth sports organization of her choosing. She is also eligible to submit an essay to win one of twelve \$10,000 spotlight grants for the organization of choice, which will be announced throughout the year.

Since the program's inception in 1985, Gatorade Player of the Year award recipients have won hundreds of professional and college championships, and many have also turned into pillars in their communities, becoming coaches, business owners and educators.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit www.Gatorade.com/POY, on Facebook at www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY or follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/Gatorade.

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