GREENWOOD HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE KENTUCKY 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 **Anna Haddock of Greenwood High School** as its **2018-19 Gatorade Kentucky Girls Soccer Player of the Year.** Haddock is the first Gatorade Kentucky Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Greenwood 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 Haddock as Kentucky'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, Haddock 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-5 junior midfielder scored 42 goals and passed for 19 assists this past season, leading the Gators (17-3-3) to the state tournament quarterfinals. Haddock fractured her foot during a postseason practice and missed Greenwood's final five games. A United Soccer Coaches All-American selection, she was also named the Kentucky Soccer Coaches Association Player of the Year. She concluded her junior year with 96 goals and 61 assists in her prep soccer career.

The president of the Greenwood junior class, Haddock has served as a student representative on the Kentucky High School Athletic Association Gender Equity Committee. She has also volunteered locally as a Spanish tutor and as a youth soccer coach. "Anna was by far the best player I saw this year," said Kelli Brannock, head coach of Owensboro Catholic High. "Her presence on the field was amazing—dominant, fast, aggressive, technical. But probably the most important is she led by example. She never stopped."

Haddock has maintained a 4.0 GPA in the classroom. She has made a verbal commitment to play soccer on scholarship at Auburn University beginning in the fall of 2020.

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. 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.

Haddock joins recent Gatorade Kentucky Girls Soccer Players of the Year Cassie Amshoff (2017-18, Sacred Heart Academy), Eva Mitchell (2016-17, West Jessamine High School), Emina Ekic (2015-16, duPont Manual High School), Stephanie Rowland (2014-15, South Oldham High School) and Mallory Eubanks (2013-14, Tates Creek High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a part of Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Haddock 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.