

**WESTMINSTER SCHOOL AT OAK MOUNTAIN STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE ALABAMA GIRLS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 17, 2020) — In its 35th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company today announced Morgan White of Westminster School at Oak Mountain as its 2019-20 Gatorade Alabama Girls Soccer Player of the Year. White is the first Gatorade Alabama Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Westminster School at Oak Mountain.

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 White 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, White joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, 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 of 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-8 senior forward and midfielder scored six goals and passed for four assists in eight games this spring before the remainder of the season was cancelled. A member of the Super-All State Team, White concluded her prep career with 107 goals. A four-time All-County honoree, she recorded 36 goals and 18 assists in 2019, and scored the game-winning goal in overtime of the Class 1A/2A/3A state championship game.

Also a basketball standout, White has assisted the elderly in her community and has volunteered locally on behalf of youth sports programs and Alabama Baptist Children's Homes and Family Ministries. "Morgan White is a difference-maker who can play just about any position on the field," said Clifton Naron, head coach at Helena High. "She's very talented and dynamic, and she represents her school and teammates well."

White has maintained a 4.31 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on scholarship at the University of South Alabama.

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.

White joins recent Gatorade Alabama Girls Soccer Players of the Year Tara Katz (2018-19, Montgomery Academy), Jasmine Greene (2017-18, Spain Park High School), 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), and Claudia Day (2013-14, Briarwood Christian School) among the state's list of former award winners.

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.

###