

**LAKE WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE WASHINGTON 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 Jen Estes of Lake Washington High School as its 2019-20 Gatorade Washington Girls Soccer Player of the Year. Estes is the first Gatorade Washington Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Lake Washington 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 Estes as Washington'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, Estes 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-7 senior midfielder led the Kangaroos to an 18-1-1 record and the Class 3A state championship this past season. Estes compiled 18 goals and 18 assists, including one of each in Lake Washington's 3-1 win over Bellevue High in the state title game. The KingCo Conference Offensive MVP, Estes is a two-time First Team All-Conference selection. Ranked as the nation's No. 29 recruit in the Class of 2020 by TopDrawerSoccer.com, she only played high school as a freshman and senior due to her commitment to the U.S. Soccer Development Academy.

Estes has volunteered locally as a peer mentor and tutor, and she has donated her time as a youth soccer and basketball coach. "Jen Estes is a winner," said Peter Cochran, head coach of Bellevue High School. "She has a ferocious competitiveness combined with a pure striker's knack for scoring big goals. She has a selfless work rate to break down opposing defenders and a skillful generosity to set up her teammates."

Estes has maintained a 4.0 GPA in the classroom. She has made a verbal commitment to attend Princeton University, 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. 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.

Estes joins recent Gatorade Washington Girls Soccer Players of the Year Bea Franklin (2018-19, Seattle Preparatory School), Summer Yates (2017-18, Chiawana High School), Jojo Harber (2016-17, Bellevue High School), Sam Hiatt (2015-16, Seattle Preparatory School), and Kelsey Turnbow (2014-15 & 2013-14, Central Valley High 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.