

**HELLGATE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE MONTANA BOYS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 11, 2021) — In its 36th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced Beckett Arthur of Hellgate High School as its 2020-21 Gatorade Montana Boys Soccer Player of the Year. Arthur is the fourth Gatorade Montana Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Hellgate 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 Arthur as Montana's best high school boys soccer player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Boys Soccer Player of the Year award to be announced in June, Arthur 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 6-foot-2, 205-pound senior midfielder led the Knights to a 17-0-1 record and the Class AA state championship this past season. Arthur scored 29 goals and passed for 20 assists, including one of each in Hellgate's 3-1 win over Bozeman High in the state title game. The 2020 Class AA Western Division Player of the Year, Arthur was a United Soccer Coaches All-Central Region selection and led Hellgate to three state titles in four years. He concluded his prep soccer career with 63 goals and 32 assists.

Arthur has volunteered locally at the Poverello Center, a non-profit that provides food, shelter and clothing for those in need, and as a youth soccer and basketball coach. He has also donated his time to multiple community service initiatives through his church. "Beckett is one of the best players that I've coached against in my 20-year career," said Ryan Billiet, head coach of Glacier High. "He complemented Hellgate's style of play and was dangerous at any given moment. I saw him take over games in an instant."

Arthur has maintained a 3.85 GPA in the classroom. He has made a verbal commitment to attend Whitworth College in Spokane, Wash., where he will play soccer 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 works with top sport-specific experts and a media advisory board of accomplished, veteran prep sports journalists to determine the state winners in each sport.

Arthur joins recent Gatorade Montana Boys Soccer Players of the Year Zach Springer (2019-20, Bozeman High School), Ted Scott (2018-19, Bozeman High School), and Matt Baldrige (2017-18 & 2016-17, Hellgate High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Through Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Arthur has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national youth sports organization of their choosing. Arthur is also eligible to submit a 30-second video explaining why the organization they chose is deserving of one of twelve \$10,000 spotlight grants, which will be announced throughout the year. To date, Gatorade Player of the Year winners' grants have totaled more than \$2.7 million across 1,117 organizations.

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 playeroftheyear.gatorade.com, on Facebook at facebook.com/GatoradePOY or follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/Gatorade.

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