

**BARLOW HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE OREGON GIRLS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 15, 2021) — In its 36th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced Abi Hoffman of Barlow High School as its 2020-21 Gatorade Oregon Girls Soccer Player of the Year. Hoffman is the first Gatorade Oregon Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Barlow 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 Hoffman as Oregon'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, Hoffman 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-6 senior forward and midfielder led the Bruins to a 6-3-1 record this past season. Hoffman scored 12 goals and passed for nine assists and was directly involved in all 21 of Barlow's goals. A four-time First Team All-State selection and a four-time Mount Hood Conference Player of the Year, Hoffman participated in the High School All-American Game last month. She concluded her prep soccer career with 101 goals and 57 assists.

Also the kicker for the Barlow High football team, Hoffman has volunteered locally as a youth soccer coach. "Abi is such an outstanding player," said Kale Dwight, head coach of Tualatin High. "She really controls the midfield, and we had a hard time containing her when she made bombing runs toward our goal. As a leader, she is invaluable."

Hoffman has maintained a 3.45 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on scholarship at Portland State University.

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.

Hoffman joins recent Gatorade Oregon Girls Soccer Players of the Year Callan Harrington (2019-20, Jesuit High School), Nedyia Sawan (2018-19, Mountainside High School), Sydney Collins (2017-18, Jesuit High School), and Kaillen Fried (2016-17, Sherwood High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Through Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Hoffman has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national youth sports organization of their choosing. Hoffman 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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