

**BARTRAM TRAIL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE FLORIDA GIRLS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June, 23, 2022) — In its 37th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Grace Ivey** of **Bartram Trail High School** is the **2021-22 Gatorade Florida Girls Soccer Player of the Year**. Ivey is the first Gatorade Florida Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Bartram Trail 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 Ivey as Florida'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, Ivey 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 junior midfielder scored 13 goals and passed for 11 assists this past season, leading the Bears (18-1) to the second round of the Class 7A state tournament. A member of a virtual training camp with the U.S. Soccer Under-17 Women's National Team last fall, Ivey is ranked as the nation's No. 89 recruit in the Class of 2023 by TopDrawerSoccer.com. A two-time First Team All-State selection, she concluded her junior year with 40 goals and 24 assists in her prep soccer career.

Ivey has volunteered locally with the special education program in the Clay County school district. She has also donated her time as a youth soccer and track coach. "The drive in this girl is unbelievable," said Jen Rodriguez, head coach of Bartram Trail High. "She works harder than most, putting in extra hours to make sure she is as successful as she can be."

Ivey has maintained a weighted 4.54 GPA in the classroom. She has made a verbal commitment to play soccer on scholarship at Texas A&M University beginning in the fall of 2023.

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 leverages experts including coaches, scouts, media and others as sources to help evaluate and determine the state winners in each sport.

Ivey joins recent Gatorade Florida Girls Soccer Players of the Year Mia Asenjo (2020-21, Montverde Academy), Olivia Candelino (2019-20, The Bolles School), Kamy Loustau (2018-19, St. Johns Country Day School), and Abbey Newton (2017-18, St. Johns Country Day School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Gatorade has a long-standing history of serving athlete communities and understands how sports instill valuable lifelong skills on and off the field. Through Gatorade's "Play it Forward" platform, Ivey has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national organization of their choosing that helps young athletes realize the benefits of playing sports. Ivey is also eligible to submit a short 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 \$3.5 million across more than 1,300 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 or follow us on social media on Facebook at facebook.com/GatoradePOY, Instagram at instagram.com/Gatorade and Twitter at twitter.com/Gatorade.

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