DIMOND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE ALASKA GIRLS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 23, 2023) — In its 38th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Tatum Porter** of **Dimond High School** is the **2022-23 Gatorade Alaska Girls Soccer Player of the Year**. Porter is the sixth Gatorade Alaska Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Dimond 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 Porter as Alaska'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, Porter joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Alyssa Thompson (2020-21, Harvard-Westlake School, Calif.), Mallory Swanson (2014-15, Mountain Vista High School, Colo.), Heather O'Reilly (2002-03 & 2001-02, East Brunswick High School, N.J.) and Abby Wambach (1997-98, Our Lady of Mercy School of Young Women, N.Y.).

The 5-foot-5 senior midfielder and forward led the Lynx to a 13-2 record and a trip to the Division I state title game this past season. Porter recorded 26 goals and 10 assists to earn First-Team All-State honors. She averaged 2.4 points per contest.

Porter has volunteered locally as part of a Japanese language immersion program, during which she routinely met with an exchange student to share culture and conversation. "The player that was always a challenge and one that every team had to pay attention to was Tatum Porter," said Reuben Siedl, Service High School head coach. "She is a danger to score anywhere within 35 yards of the goal, and she works hard to win any ball that is in her area."

Porter has maintained a 3.95 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on scholarship at the University of Hawaii this fall.

The <u>Gatorade Player of the Year</u> 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.

Porter joins recent Gatorade Alaska Girls Soccer Players of the Year Keegynn Applegate (2021-22, Dimond High School), Aubrey Stacy (2020-21, West Valley High School), Kana Mateaki (2019-20, Dimond High School), and Malia Miller (2018-19, Juneau-Douglas High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Being a Gatorade Player of the Year means paying it forward for the next generation. Through Gatorade's Play it Forward initiative, every Player of the Year receives a grant to give to one of Gatorade's social impact partners, supporting Gatorade's ambition to fuel the future of sport. To date, Gatorade Player of the Year winners' grants have totaled more than \$3.5 million across more than 1,300 organizations.

For nearly 40 years, Gatorade has honored high school athletes at the top of their game as teammates, supporting their communities and achieving academic success. From CEOs and coaches to star athletes and community leaders, Gatorade Player of the Year winners showcase the power of sport.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate studentathletes, visit playeroftheyear.gatorade.com or follow us on social media on Facebook at <u>facebook.com/GatoradePOY</u>, Instagram at <u>instagram.com/Gatorade</u> and Twitter at <u>twitter.com/Gatorade</u>.