

**ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA 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 **Emely Rubio** of **St. John's College High School** is the **2022-23 Gatorade District of Columbia Girls Soccer Player of the Year**. Rubio is the fifth Gatorade District of Columbia Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from St. John's College 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 Rubio as District of Columbia'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, Rubio 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 led the Cadets to a 19-0-1 record and championships in both the Washington Catholic Athletic Conference Tournament and the DCSAA Tournament this past season. Rubio scored 15 goals and passed for 17 assists, including four goals in St John's College High School's three-game run to the DCSAA crown. The WCAC and Washington Post All-Met Player of the Year, she is a member of El Salvador's Under-19 Women's National Team.

Rubio has volunteered locally with Best Buddies and as a youth soccer coach. She has also donated her time to multiple community service initiatives through her church. "Emely was very dangerous with or without the ball," said Brendon Gregoire, head coach of Elizabeth Seton High School. "A lot of their success goes through her in the middle. She was really good technically and very good organizing her team."

Rubio has maintained a weighted 4.56 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on scholarship at Campbell University (N.C.) 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 leverages experts including coaches, scouts, media and others as sources to help evaluate and determine the state winners in each sport.

Rubio joins recent Gatorade District of Columbia Girls Soccer Players of the Year Kiki Rice (2021-22 & 2018-19, Sidwell Friends School) and Zoe Vidaurre (2020-21 & 2019-20, St. John's College 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 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.