SCARBOROUGH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE MAINE 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 **Lana Djuranovic** of **Scarborough High School** is the **2022-23 Gatorade Maine Girls Soccer Player of the Year**. Djuranovic is the second Gatorade Maine Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Scarborough 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 Djuranovic as Maine'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, Djuranovic 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-6 junior midfielder led the Red Storms to an 18-0 record and the Class A state championship this past season. Djuranovic scored 28 goals and passed for five assists, including the game's only goal in Scarborough High School's overtime win over Brunswick High School in the state final. A United Soccer Coaches All-American selection, Djuranovic is a two-time Southern Maine Athletic Association All-Conference honoree. She concluded her junior year with 46 goals and 18 assists in her prep soccer career.

Djuranovic is a peer leader in Scarborough High School's Sources of Strength club, a youth suicide prevention project. She has also volunteered locally as a youth soccer coach. "Lana is the X factor for Scarborough," said Martyn Davison, head coach of Brunswick High School. "She certainly was the key factor for her team, either scoring or assisting for goals in crucial games. She's a player of class who shows high quality in tight games when some magic is needed to win a game."

Djuranovic has maintained an A average in the classroom. She has made a verbal commitment to play soccer on scholarship at the University of Miami (Fla.) beginning in the fall of 2024.

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.

Djuranovic joins recent Gatorade Maine Girls Soccer Players of the Year Maggie Cochran (2021-22 & 2020-21, Cape Elizabeth High School) and Kristina Kelly (2019-20 & 2018-19, Camden Hills Regional 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.