

**SOUTHERN COLUMBIA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE PENNSYLVANIA GIRLS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

**CHICAGO** (June 23, 2023) — In its 38<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Loren Gehret** of **Southern Columbia High School** is the **2022-23 Gatorade Pennsylvania Girls Soccer Player of the Year**. Gehret is the first Gatorade Pennsylvania Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Southern Columbia 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 Gehret as Pennsylvania'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, Gehret 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-8 senior forward led the Tigers to an 18-6-1 record and the Class 1A state championship this past season. Gehret scored 44 goals and passed for 23 assists, including four goals and an assist in Southern Columbia's 5-3 win over Freedom Area High in the state final. The Pennsylvania Soccer Coaches Association's Player of the Year, she's a two-time United Soccer Coaches All-American selection and a three-time Daily Item Player of the Year. She concluded her prep soccer career with 139 goals and 76 assists.

A member of the Southern Columbia High student council, Gehret has volunteered locally on behalf of the Salvation Army and as a youth soccer and basketball coach. She's also donated her time to a fundraising campaign to benefit the Janet Weis Children's Hospital. "Loren's shot is the most powerful and accurate that I've ever seen," said Derek Stine, head coach of Southern Columbia High School. "Loren has incredible vision for creating space both on and off the ball. Her spatial awareness and creativity make her a threat from anywhere on the field."

Gehret has maintained an A average in the classroom. She has signed a national letter of intent to play soccer on scholarship at Monmouth University (N.J.) 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.

Gehret joins recent Gatorade Pennsylvania Girls Soccer Players of the Year Halle Engle (2021-22, Mechanicsburg Area Senior High School), Ellie Coffield (2020-21 & 2019-20, Mars Area High School), and Camryn Lexow (2018-19, Abington 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](http://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com) or follow us on social media on Facebook at [facebook.com/GatoradePOY](https://facebook.com/GatoradePOY), Instagram at [instagram.com/Gatorade](https://instagram.com/Gatorade) and Twitter at [twitter.com/Gatorade](https://twitter.com/Gatorade).