

**OGDEN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE UTAH 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 **Nevaeh Peregrina** of **Ogden High School** is the **2022-23 Gatorade Utah Girls Soccer Player of the Year**. Peregrina is the first Gatorade Utah Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Ogden 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 Peregrina as Utah’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, Peregrina 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-3 junior midfielder scored 17 goals and passed for 10 assists this past season, leading the Tigers (13-6) to the Class 3A state championship game. The 2022 Deseret News’ Ms. Soccer winner, Peregrina is a three-time First Team All-State selection. Ranked as the nation’s No. 34 recruit in the Class of 2024 by PrepSoccer.com, she traveled to Sweden last year with the U.S. Soccer Under-16 Women’s National Team.

Peregrina has volunteered locally by completing house projects for families in need. She has also donated her time as part of elementary school literacy programs and as a youth soccer coach. “Navaeh is an amazing player,” said Sarah Espinoza, head coach of Ben Lomond High School. “She has speed, great skills with the ball and has focus and vision on the field. She is very skilled at making runs that put her in scoring position every offensive attack.”

Peregrina maintained a 3.65 GPA in the classroom. She has made a verbal commitment to play soccer on scholarship at the University of Portland beginning in the fall of 2024.

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.

Peregrina joins recent Gatorade Utah Girls Soccer Players of the Year Lily Boyden (2021-22, Skyline High School), Bizzy Arevalo (2020-21, Davis High School), Haven Empey (2019-20, American Fork High School), and Caroline Stringfellow (2018-19, Syracuse 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.

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