

**JENKS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE OKLAHOMA BOYS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 14, 2024) — In its 39th year of honoring the nation’s most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Jack Franklin** of **Jenks High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade Oklahoma Boys Soccer Player of the Year**. Franklin is the eighth Gatorade Oklahoma Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Jenks High School.

The award, which celebrates the nation’s top high school athletes for excellence on the field, in the classroom and in the community, distinguishes Franklin as Oklahoma’s best high school boys soccer player. From CEOs and coaches to star athletes, Gatorade Player of the Year winners showcase the power of sport, touting an all-star group of alumni that includes Lyle Yorks (1987-88, E.O. Smith High School, Conn.), Alecko Eskandarian (1999-00, Bergen Catholic High School, N.J.) and Ben Bender (2019-20, Calvert Hall College High School, Md.).

The 6-foot-2, 200-pound senior goalkeeper led the Trojans to a 14-4 record and a second-straight Class 6A state championship this past season. Franklin conceded eight goals and recorded 10 shutouts in addition to being the winning keeper in shootouts in both the state quarterfinals and the state championship game. A Class 6A First Team All-State selection, he also contributed three assists through his distribution from the back.

A member of his local DECA chapter, Franklin has volunteered locally with the Drug Free Youth Club and as a youth goalkeeping coach. He has also donated his time to multiple community service initiatives through his church. “I have no idea how Jenks won a state championship, but the only way it happened was because of Jack,” said David Bolding, head coach of Owasso High School. “He dominated games like no one else in 6A, which is a crazy statement for a goalie. Jack absolutely changed the season for Jenks and made it a great year.”

Franklin has maintained a B average in the classroom. He has signed a national letter of intent to play soccer on scholarship at the University of Missouri-St. Louis 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.

Franklin joins recent Gatorade Oklahoma Boys Soccer Players of the Year Federico Palacios (2022-23, Northwest Classen High School), Will Applegate (2021-22, Bishop Kelley High School), Isaias Silva (2020-21, Mustang High School) and Will Edwards (2019-20, Jenks High School), among the state’s list of former award winners.

As part of Gatorade’s commitment to breaking down barriers in sport, every Player of the Year also receives a grant to donate to a social impact partner. To date, the Gatorade Player of the Year program has provided more than \$4.9 million in grants to winners across more than 1,900 organizations.

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 X(Twitter) at x.com/Gatorade.