## ROSSVIEW HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE TENNESSEE BOYS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR

**CHICAGO** (June 14, 2024) — In its 39<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Graham Duncan** of **Rossview High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade Tennessee Boys Soccer Player of the Year**. Duncan is the first Gatorade Tennessee Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Rossview 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 Duncan as Tennessee'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 5-foot-10, 155-pound senior midfielder scored 48 goals and passed for eight assists this past season, leading the Hawks (14-5-2) to the Class AAA state tournament quarterfinals. Duncan recorded 10 hat tricks, including two four-goal games, one five-goal game and two six-goal games. A three-time First Team All-State selection, he concluded his prep soccer career with 83 goals and 45 assists.

Duncan helps create video content for the Rossview school news program. He has volunteered locally as a youth soccer coach and he has also donated his time to multiple community service initiatives through his church youth group. "Graham is simply the best soccer player I have ever coached in my years as a high school head coach," said Seth Ramsey, head coach of Rossview High School. "His technical proficiency, tactical awareness and creativity on the field are impressive. Graham illustrates all of the qualities of a truly great attacking midfielder."

Duncan has maintained a 3.73 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a national letter of intent to play soccer on scholarship at the University of Memphis this fall.

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.

Duncan joins recent Gatorade Tennessee Boys Soccer Players of the Year Lucas Nordin (2022-23, Bearden High School), Malachi Jones (2021-22, Grace Christian Academy), Gui Vivaldini (2020-21, McCallie School) and Brandon Parrish (2019-20, Fairview 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 <u>playeroftheyear.gatorade.com</u> or follow us on social media on Facebook at <u>facebook.com/GatoradePOY</u>, Instagram at <u>instagram.com/Gatorade</u> and X(Twitter) at <u>x.com/Gatorade</u>.