MOUNT SI HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE WASHINGTON 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 **Zach Ramsey** of **Mount Si High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade Washington Boys Soccer Player of the Year**. Ramsey is the second Gatorade Washington Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Mount Si 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 Ramsey as Washington'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-9, 155-pound senior midfielder led the Wildcats to a 17-4 record and the Class 4A state championship this past season. Ramsey scored 34 goals and passed for six assists, netting a hat trick in Mount Si's 3-1 win over Camas High School in the state final to earn game MVP honors. The KingCo Athletic Conference Offensive Player of the Year, Ramsey tallied seven hat tricks, including one four-goal game. He concluded his prep soccer career with 53 goals and 28 assists.

Ramsey has donated his time locally as a peer math tutor and as a youth soccer coach. "What makes Zach special is that he wasn't a selfish star player who felt he had to do everything," said Drew Torkelson, head coach of Redmond High School. "He was clinical in front of goal, but he was also very good at getting everyone involved. Mount Si had a good possession-based style this year in which he was the main guy connecting everyone."

Ramsey has maintained a 3.98 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a national letter of intent to play soccer on scholarship at the University of Washington 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.

Ramsey joins recent Gatorade Washington Boys Soccer Players of the Year Alex Harris (2022-23 & 2021-22, Columbia River High School), Thomas Vlasak (2020-21, Lewis & Clark High School) and Logan Oyama (2019-20, Puyallup 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>.