

**MIDDLETOWN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE DELAWARE GIRLS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 20, 2024) — In its 39th year of honoring the nation's most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Gabby Riley** of **Middletown High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade Delaware Girls Soccer Player of the Year**. Riley is the second Gatorade Delaware Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Middletown 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 Riley as Delaware's best high school girls 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 Aly Wagner (1997-98, Presentation High School, Calif.), Mallory Swanson (2014-15, Mountain Vista High School, Colo.) and Kennedy Fuller (2022-23 & 2021-22, Southlake Carroll High School, Texas).

The state's returning Gatorade Player of the Year, the 5-foot-6 senior midfielder and forward led the Cavaliers to an 18-0 record and a second straight Division 1 state championship this past season. Riley scored a state-record 54 goals and passed for 20 assists, netting the only score in Middletown's 1-0 win over Appoquinimink High School in the state final. The Delaware State Coaches Association's Player of the Year, she is a four-year First Team All-State selection. She concluded her prep soccer career with 138 goals and 69 assists.

Riley has volunteered locally with Stockings for Soldiers and as a youth soccer coach. She has also donated her time to multiple community service activities through the National Honor Society. "Gabby is the best player we played against this year by a long way," said Kyle Bardeer, head coach of Archmere Academy. "She's got a complete skill-set, incredible drive, a killer instinct and she's very, very smart."

Riley has maintained a weighted 4.47 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a national letter of intent to play soccer on scholarship at the University of Delaware 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.

Two-time winner Riley joins recent Gatorade Delaware Girls Soccer Players of the Year Maddie Schepers (2021-22, Saint Mark's High School), Caitlin St. Leger (2020-21, Caravel Academy) and Paige Kenton (2019-20, Padua Academy), 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.