

**BOISE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE IDAHO GIRLS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

**CHICAGO** (June 20, 2024) — In its 39<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation’s most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Sammy Smith** of **Boise High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade Idaho Girls Soccer Player of the Year**. Smith is the fifth Gatorade Idaho Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Boise 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 Smith as Idaho’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-5 senior midfielder and forward scored 11 goals and passed for 11 assists this past season, leading the Braves (17-1-1) to the Class 5A state championship game. Also the Southern Idaho Conference Class 5A Player of the Year, she missed the postseason while earning a bronze medal at the 2023 Pan American Games in Chile as a member of the U.S. Soccer Under-19 Women’s National Team. The state’s 2020-21 Gatorade Girls Cross Country Player of the Year, Smith is ranked as the nation’s No. 22 recruit in the Class of 2024 by TopDrawerSoccer.com.

A national champion Nordic and cross-country skier, Smith is a co-founder and board member of Go Big Inc., which provides mentorship and resources for at-risk youth in Idaho, and she has donated her time on behalf of community beautification projects in addition to serving as a youth tutor. “With Sammy on the field, Boise was significantly stronger than when she wasn’t,” said Gene Corson, head coach of Mountain View High School. “Some of this was due to scoring and assists, but much more of it had to do with the way she entirely changes the game with her movement, ability to possess the ball, distribute the ball to the most advantageous spaces on the field and also with her leadership.”

Smith has maintained a weighted 4.39 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National letter of intent to play soccer on scholarship at Stanford University 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 Smith joins recent Gatorade Idaho Girls Soccer Players of the Year Elliotte Kortus (2021-22, Lake City High School) and Kelsey Oyler (2020-21 & 2019-20, Rocky Mountain 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](http://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com) or follow us on social media on Facebook at [facebook.com/GatoradePOY](https://facebook.com/GatoradePOY), Instagram at [instagram.com/Gatorade](https://instagram.com/Gatorade) and X(Twitter) at [x.com/Gatorade](https://x.com/Gatorade).