DAVIES HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE NORTH DAKOTA 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 **Madison Barnick** of **Davies High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade North Dakota Girls Soccer Player of the Year**. Barnick is the third Gatorade North Dakota Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Davies 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 Barnick as North Dakota'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 5-foot-3 senior midfielder and forward led the Eagles to a 16-0-1 record and the Class A state championship this past season. Barnick High School scored 19 goals and passed for 25 assists, including both tallies in Davies High School's 2-1 win over Minot High School in the state final. A three-time Class A First Team All-State selection, she concluded her prep soccer career with 48 goals and 68 assists.

The student manager for the Davies High School boys soccer team, Barnick has worked on a fundraising campaign to benefit the Roger Maris Cancer Center. She has also volunteered locally with Feed My Starving Children and at the Great Plains Food Bank. "Madison Barnick is a tremendous player and has been for years," said Jason Heydt, head coach of Red River High School. "She controls the midfield and offensive side of things in so many ways. Madison can beat teams using her speed, skill, physicality and accuracy."

Barnick has maintained a weighted 4.04 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a national letter of intent to play soccer on scholarship at the University of Mary 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.

Barnick joins recent Gatorade North Dakota Girls Soccer Players of the Year Emerson Perrin (2022-23, Minot High School), MaLiah Burke (2021-22 & 2020-21, Minot High School) and Elle Hill (2019-20, Bismarck 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 studentathletes, 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>.