CHAMPLAIN VALLEY UNION HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE VERMONT 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 **Chloe Pecor** of **Champlain Valley Union High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade Vermont Girls Soccer Player of the Year**. Pecor is the fifth Gatorade Vermont Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Champlain Valley Union 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 Pecor as Vermont'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-7 senior forward scored 32 goals and passed for four assists this past season, leading the Redhawks (14-1) to the Division 1 state quarterfinals. A two-time Burlington Free Press Player of the Year, Pecor is also a two-time United Soccer Coaches All-American selection. She concluded her prep soccer career with 83 goals and 21 assists.

Pecor has volunteered locally as an ambassador and advocate for the Alzheimer's Association. She has also donated her time as a youth soccer coach and on behalf of Unified Sports teams at CVU, which support physically and intellectually challenged young athletes. "Chloe is a force of nature," said Peter Albright, head coach of Mount Mansfield Union High School. "She's a great athlete with one-on-one ability and a matching mentality. She's a good finisher and a physical, technical worker who relentlessly defends her position."

Pecor has maintained a 3.23 GPA in the classroom. She will attend High Point University in North Carolina, but will not continue her competitive soccer career there.

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.

Two-time winner Pecor joins recent Gatorade Vermont Girls Soccer Players of the Year Tanum Nelson (2021-22, Harwood Union High School), Josie Pecor (2020-21, Champlain Valley Union High School) and Grace Pinkus (2019-20, Burr & Burton 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 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>.