

**LA CENTER HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE WASHINGTON 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 **Shaela Bradley of La Center High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade Washington Girls Soccer Player of the Year**. Bradley is the first Gatorade Washington Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from La Center 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 Bradley as Washington’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-5 senior midfielder scored 35 goals and passed for eight assists this past season, leading the Wildcats (18-4) to the Class 1A state semifinals. A member of the U.S. Soccer Under-19 Women’s National Team player pool, Bradley was a 2023 United Soccer Coaches Youth All-American selection based on her club play with the Portland Thorns. She is ranked as the nation’s No. 57 recruit in the Class of 2024 by TopDrawerSoccer.com and concluded her prep soccer career with 137 goals and 49 assists.

Bradley has volunteered locally as a Unified Sports referee and as a youth soccer coach. She has also donated her time to multiple community service initiatives through her church. “Our game plan was to try to slow Shaela down because you can’t stop her,” said Antonio Buckley, head coach of Seton Catholic High School. “She’s fast, strong and [so athletic she] can probably dunk a basketball. Watching her, you can see she is such a great teammate that does a lot of jobs on the field.”

Bradley has maintained a 3.81 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a national letter of intent to play soccer on scholarship at Rutgers 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.

Bradley joins recent Gatorade Washington Girls Soccer Players of the Year Shelby Runje (2022-23, Issaquah High School), Hayden Crowley (2021-22, Richland High School), Layne St. George (2020-21, Holy Names Academy) and Jen Estes (2019-20, Lake Washington 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).