MUSKEGO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE WISCONSIN 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 **Anna Sikorski** of **Muskego High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade Wisconsin Girls Soccer Player** of the Year. Sikorski is the first Gatorade Wisconsin Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Muskego 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 Sikorski as Wisconsin'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-8 senior forward scored 36 goals and passed for nine assists this past season, leading the Warriors to a third consecutive Division 1 state title. Ranked as the nation's No. 159 recruit by TopDrawerSoccer—No. 3 in the Midwest Region—Sikorski is a three-time First Team All-State selection and was also named the 2023 All-State Player of the Year. She is a two-time United Soccer Coaches All-American and a two-time USSF Youth National Team Regional ID Camp invitee. This spring's championship marked her fourth as an individual since helping Divine Savior Holy Angels to the title in 2021.

Sikorski has volunteered locally on behalf of the Salvation Army and by organizing a neighborhood food drive for people in need. She has also served as a baby and dog sitter in her community in addition to helping to care for her elderly grandmother. "Anna Sikorski is so deserving of this award," said Bob Spielmann, MLS NEXT Director for Bavarian United Soccer Club. "I coached her at U11- U14 and, at that time, I knew she was going to be a special player. She's always had the drive, commitment and passion to become a dominant player. She's always been motivated to become the best possible player she could and she's just scratched the surface. I expect bigger and better things to come from Anna as she gets ready to play at the next level."

Sikorski has maintained a weighted 3.57 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a national letter of intent to play soccer on scholarship at the University of Kentucky 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.

Two-time winner Sikorski joins recent Gatorade Wisconsin Girls Soccer Players of the Year Kayla Budish (2021-22, Brookfield Central High School), Maggie Starker (2020-21, Whitefish Bay High School) and Lauren Brown (2019-20, Catholic Memorial 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>.