

## MIDDLETON HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE WISCONSIN BOYS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR

**CHICAGO** (June 12, 2025) — In its 40<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Jimmy Murphy** of **Middleton High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade Wisconsin Boys Soccer Player of the Year**.

Gatorade Player of the Year is the top honor in high school sports, celebrating the nation's best high school athletes for their success on the field, in the classroom and in the community. The award distinguishes Murphy as Wisconsin's best high school boys soccer player, and he joins an impressive group of alumni that spans CEOs, coaches and star athletes such as Ben Bender (2019-20, Calvert Hall College High School, M.D.) and Ransford Gyan (2022-23 & 2023-24, St. Benedict's Preparatory School, N.J.).

The 5-foot-9, 150-pound senior forward led the Cardinals (22-3-1) to the Division 1 state title and the No. 21 spot in the United Soccer Coaches Fall National Rankings this past season. Murphy scored 21 goals and passed for 15 assists and was named the Wisconsin SCA Player of the Year. Ranked No. 15 on Sports Illustrated's national Top 25 High School Players for the fall of 2024, he was also a 2024 USC All-American selection and won that organization's Ethics & Sportsmanship Award.

Murphy is active in his St. Bernard's of Middleton church community and participated in the Diocese of Madison's Love Begins Here program, through which he participated in service-mission trips throughout the summer. He's also attended a diocesan Frassati Fest and participated in associated activities. Murphy has volunteered locally by tutoring and reading to students in a school where his mother is a teacher. "By his senior year, Jimmy was a force for us," said Middleton High School head coach Kevin Pauls. "He lit up the scoreboard over and over. Jimmy combines strength, speed and finesse—never more evident than in the final four, where he scored the game-winner in the semis and made the pass of the tournament leading to a goal in the final. Always a hard worker, focused, mature and reflective, he was the best player on the best team this season."

Murphy has maintained a 3.24 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a written letter of athletic aid to play soccer at the University of Southern Indiana this fall.

The [Gatorade Player of the Year](#) program annually recognizes one winner in the District of Columbia and each of the 50 states across 12 different high school sports – 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.

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 \$5.6 million in grants to winners across more than 2,000 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](https://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com) or follow us on social media on Instagram at [instagram.com/Gatorade](https://instagram.com/Gatorade), Facebook at [facebook.com/GatoradePOY](https://facebook.com/GatoradePOY) and X(Twitter) at [x.com/Gatorade](https://x.com/Gatorade).

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