

**VISTA DEL LAGO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE CALIFORNIA GIRLS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

**CHICAGO** (June 18, 2025) — In its 40<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation’s most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Daya King** of **Vista Del Lago High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade California Girls 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 King as California’s best high school girls soccer player, and she joins an impressive group of alumni that spans CEOs, coaches and star athletes such as Morgan Gautrat (2010-11, Frederica Academy, Ga.), Mallory Swanson (2014-15, Mountain Vista High School, Colo.), Kennedy Fuller (2022-23 & 2021-22, Southlake Carroll High School, Texas).

The 5-foot-7 senior midfielder led the Ravens to a 17-12-1 record and both the Southern Section Division 7 and the SoCal Division V Regional tournament championships this past season. King scored 28 goals and passed for eight assists, and had the assist on Vista Del Lago’s lone goal in its 1-0 win over Whittier Christian High School in the regional final. Ranked as the No. 25 recruit in the Class of 2025 by TopDrawerSoccer.com, she was a member of the U.S. Under-17 Women’s National Team that placed third in the FIFA U17 Women’s World Cup in the Dominican Republic last November.

A member of the Vista Del Lago AP Calculus B/C club, King has volunteered locally with Power Speaks Louder, a non-profit organization serving the less fortunate in Moreno Valley. “Daya is an incredible player who is a game-changer both offensively and defensively,” said Darren Sims, head coach of Moreno Valley High School. “She is the total package: pace, strength, touch, tackling, dribbling, passing ability and she has a very good shot to boot.”

King has maintained a 4.27 weighted GPA in the classroom. She has signed a written letter of athletic aid to play soccer at Duke 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 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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