SAINT MARK'S HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE DELAWARE GIRLS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 18, 2025) — In its 40th year of honoring the nation's most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced Lily Phillips of Saint Mark's High School is the 2024-25 Gatorade Delaware 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 Phillips as Delaware'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 scored 16 goals and passed for 20 assists this past season, leading the Spartans (14-3) to the Division II state championship game. A three-time First Team All-State selection, she was a 2024 United Soccer Coaches All-Mid-Atlantic Region honoree. Ranked as the nation's No. 32 recruit in the Class of 2025 by PrepSoccer.com, she concluded her prep soccer career with 78 goals and 75 assists.

Phillips was one of two students in Delaware this spring awarded the David Bakerian scholarship from the Delaware Bankers Association for her essay on financial literacy. She has volunteered locally on behalf of The Meadowood Program, which serves students with intellectual and developmental disabilities. She has also donated her time with the Friendship House and the Food Bank of Delaware. "Lily is explosive, technically sharp and a consistent threat from distance," said Ally Taylor, head coach of Newark Charter School. "She can strike with power and precision, making her incredibly hard to defend. Lily is the most impactful player on the field in any match she plays."

Phillips has maintained a 3.55 weighted GPA in the classroom. She has signed a written letter of athletic aid to play soccer at Pennsylvania State University 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 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 <u>playeroftheyear.gatorade.com</u> or follow us on social media on Instagram at <u>instagram.com/Gatorade</u>. Facebook at <u>facebook.com/GatoradePOY</u> and X(Twitter) at <u>x.com/Gatorade</u>.

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