

**ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE  
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA 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 **Kailyn Effah** of **St. John's College High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade District of Columbia 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 Effah as District of Columbia'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 state's returning Gatorade Player of the Year, the 5-foot-6 senior midfielder led the Cadets to a 12-2-4 record and the DCSAA Tournament championship this past season. Effah scored 12 goals and passed for 15 assists, setting up the lone goal in St. John's 1-0 win over Sidwell Friends School in the DCSAA tournament final. She is a two-time First Team All-Washington Catholic Athletic Conference selection and a two-time Washington Post First Team All-Met honoree.

Effah has served on a medical mission trip to Ghana in association with Ghana Medical Relief. She has also donated her time by creating a summer training and mentoring program for youth soccer players and has volunteered locally as a peer English Tutor. "Kailyn was once again the dominant force in the midfield in the WCAC," said Jim Bruno, head coach of Our Lady of Good Counsel High School. "She's one of the best I've seen in this region."

Effah has maintained a 3.75 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a written letter of athletic aid to play soccer at West Virginia 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](http://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com) or follow us on social media on Instagram at [instagram.com/Gatorade](https://www.instagram.com/Gatorade), Facebook at [facebook.com/GatoradePOY](https://www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY) and X(Twitter) at [x.com/Gatorade](https://x.com/Gatorade).

###