

**PUNAHOU SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE HAWAII 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 **Xeyana Salanoa** of **Punahou School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade Hawaii 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 Salanoa as Hawaii'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-9 senior goaltender led the Buff 'n Blue to an 11-2 record and a third straight Division I state championship this past season. Salanoa surrendered just five goals and posted eight shutouts on the year, including back-to-back clean sheets in the state semifinals and final. The Honolulu Star Advertiser Player of the Year, she was one of 12 athletes across the state selected to the Hawaii High School Athletic Association's Class of 2025 Hall of Honor.

The president of the Punahou Polynesian Club, Salanoa has volunteered locally for the Great Aloha Run and as a peer tutor. She has also donated her time to multiple community service initiatives through her church youth group. "Xeyana is a strong keeper because she is all over anything you crack at her on the ground and in the air," said Nikki Dela Pena, head coach of Moanalua High School. "She's involved throughout the game from her net both defensively and while they attack. She's talking across the field and you can see her analyzing plays as they develop."

Salanoa has maintained a 3.34 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a written letter of athletic aid to play soccer at Western Oregon 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 or follow us on social media on Instagram at instagram.com/Gatorade, Facebook at facebook.com/GatoradePOY and X(Twitter) at x.com/Gatorade.

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