NAPERVILLE CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE ILLINOIS 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 **Callie Tumilty** of **Naperville Central High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade Illinois 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 Tumilty as Illinois' 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 forward led the Redhawks to a 20-2-1 record and the DuPage Valley Conference title as well as sectional semifinals this past season. Tumilty scored 23 goals and passed for 15 assists, leading her program to its best-ever regular season in history. She scored or assisted in every game but two and had seven multi-goal games and recorded both a goal and assist in seven games. The Illinois High School Coaches Association's Player of the Year, she was her conference Golden Boot winner and a 2024 United Soccer Coaches All-American selection.

Tumilty has volunteered locally with Feed My Starving Children, an organization that attempts to eliminate malnutrition for youth in need. She has also donated her time to soccer camps and private training sessions. "Every time Callie touches the ball, you hold your breath as an opposing coach," said Steve Goletz, head coach of Naperville High School. "She has a rare combination of speed, strength and skill. Very few players have the ability to strike a ball with both feet from anywhere in the attacking half like she does, which makes her a really hard player to handle over the course of a match. Her desire to consistently be the best player on the field shows in her workrate and relentless style of play."

Tumilty has maintained a 3.50 weighted GPA in the classroom. She has signed a written letter of athletic aid to play soccer at The Ohio 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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