

**ST. THOMAS AQUINAS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE KANSAS 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 **Anisten Cabantac** of **St. Thomas Aquinas High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade Kansas 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 Cabantac as Kansas' 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-4 senior midfielder scored five goals and passed for 16 assists this past season, leading the Saints to a 17-4 record and the Class 5A quarterfinals. Ranked as the nation's No. 21 prospect by PrepSoccer, Cabantac is a three-time EKL Midfielder of the Year, a First Team All-State selection and a United Soccer Coaches All-American. In club play, she has earned ECNL National Player of the Year honors in addition to winning the league national championship and being named an ECNL All-American. Cabantac also trained with Union KC of the Women's Professional Soccer League last summer. She graduated as a three-time state champion.

Cabantac has volunteered locally on behalf of the Catholic Charities Organization, the Harvesters Community Food Network, BoysGrowKC (agricultural initiative) and the Walk For Life. A member of her school's Asian Culture Club, Prayer Club and French Club, she has also tutored peers in math. In addition, she's donated her time to Blue Valley TEAMSoccer, supporting youth players with intellectual and physical challenges. "There were a lot of nice players around the state this past season," said Blue Valley Southwest High School head coach Erik Jones. "If I had to build a team around one player, I would pick Cabantac."

Cabantac has maintained a 96.9 average in the classroom. She has signed a written letter of athletic aid to play soccer at Purdue 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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