

**SACRED HEART ACADEMY STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE KENTUCKY 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 **Caitlin Chase** of **Sacred Heart Academy** is the **2024-25 Gatorade Kentucky 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 Chase as Kentucky'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-5 senior midfielder and forward led the Valkyries to (21-4-2) to the state championship this past season. Chase scored 39 goals and passed for 7 assists, netting the game-winner as Sacred Heart beat Lexington Catholic, 3-1, in the state title game. Chase graduated with the school record for career goals with 91. Also the Kentucky Miss Soccer winner, she is a 2024 United Soccer Coaches All-American selection.

Chase has volunteered locally with Love the Hungry, an organization that aims to provide nutrient-filled meals to families fighting starvation and malnutrition. She has also donated her time with the Kentucky Humane Society. "Caitlin is a special player," said Scott Deopere, head coach of Bethlehem High School. "She possesses an exceptional finishing ability, quick decision-making, intelligent movement off the ball and the composure to score in high-pressure situations."

Chase has maintained a 4.29 weighted GPA in the classroom. She has signed a written letter of athletic aid to play soccer at Vanderbilt 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](https://www.instagram.com/Gatorade), Facebook at [facebook.com/GatoradePOY](https://www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY) and X(Twitter) at x.com/Gatorade.

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