

**COLUMBIA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE NEW YORK 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 **Kennedy Ring of Columbia High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade New York 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 Ring as New York'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 midfielder scored seven goals and passed for three assists this past season, leading the Blue Devils (19-1-2) to the Class AA state championship game. The Class AA State Player of the Year, Ring is a two-time United Soccer Coaches High School All-American selection and a member of the U.S. Soccer Under-19 Women's National Team. She concluded her prep soccer career with 50 goals and 32 assists.

A member of her school's Math League team, Ring has volunteered locally with the Special Olympics and as a youth soccer coach. "Kennedy has excellent vision, top-level speed and a scoring range far beyond that of most of the top scorers in our league," said Bryce Colby, head coach of Niskayuna High School. "But I've always said that the thing that makes her such a key element of her team is her defensive quality."

Ring has maintained a B-plus average in the classroom. She has signed a written letter of athletic aid to play soccer at Penn State 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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