

**BAY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE OHIO 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 **Tessa Knapp** of **Bay High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade Ohio 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 Knapp as Ohio'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-7 senior forward led the Rockets to a 20-0-2 record and the Division III state championship this past season. Knapp scored 64 goals and passed for 14 assists, setting up the lone goal as Bay High School beat Highland High School, 1-0, in the state title game. She became the leading goal-scorer in state history this past season graduating with 212. The 2024 Miss Ohio Soccer honoree, she was also the 2023-24 Gatorade Player of the Year and earned her third consecutive United Soccer Coaches All-American selection last fall.

Knapp has volunteered locally with The Village Project, an organization that provides meals and extended support to families dealing with a cancer patient. She also founded her own training program, TEK Soccer Training, through which she trains younger athletes and develops their skills. "Tessa is a level above the rest," said Wally Senk, head coach of Copley High School. "She has a great mix of high-level tactical awareness, she's technically gifted, has raw athletic ability and she's a great leader and team player."

Knapp has maintained a 4.21 weighted GPA in the classroom. She has signed a written letter of athletic aid to play soccer at the University of Notre Dame 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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