EDMOND NORTH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE OKLAHOMA 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 **Rylee McLanahan** of **Edmond North High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade Oklahoma 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 McLanahan as Oklahoma'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 state's returning Gatorade Player of the Year, the 5-foot-6 junior midfielder scored 43 goals and passed for 15 assists this past season, leading the Huskies (15-1) to the Class 6A state quarterfinals. McLanahan scored four or more goals on eight occasions, including two games with five goals. A member of the U.S. Soccer Under-17 Women's National Team, McLanahan is ranked as the nation's No. 6 recruit in the Class of 2026 by TopDrawerSoccer.com. She concluded her junior year with a state-record 107 goals in her prep soccer career to go with 42 assists.

McLanahan has volunteered locally with TOPSoccer, which benefits intellectually and physically challenged youth soccer players, and as a youth soccer coach. She has also donated her time as part of multiple community service initiatives through her church. "Rylee is an integral part of their offense, contributing to most of their goals," said Melissa Thompson, head coach of Edmond Santa Fe High School. "They would not have been as successful without her contributions the past three years."

McLanahan has maintained a 4.0 GPA in the classroom. She has made a verbal commitment to play soccer at the University of Florida beginning in the fall of 2026.

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 studentathletes, 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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