HARRISBURG HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE SOUTH DAKOTA 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 **Addie Budig** of **Harrisburg High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade South Dakota 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 Budig as South Dakota'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 midfielder and defender led the Tigers to an 18-0 record and a third straight Class AA state championship this past season. Budig anchored a defense that allowed two goals and compiled 16 shutouts, including 12 straight to close out the season. The Tigers allowed only 25 shots on goal the entire campaign. A First Team All-State selection, she was the Defensive Player of the Game in the state championship match, a 5-0 victory over Stevens High School.

Budig has participated in a service trip to the Dominican Republic, where she helped build three houses. She is a certified lifeguard and works as a barista at Scooter's Coffee in Harrisburg. She has also volunteered locally at The Alpha Center, a non-profit pregnancy crisis center, in addition to donating her time as a peer history tutor. "Addie is an aggressive force in the midfield and backline," said Hailee Fischer, head coach of Harrisburg High School. "She can make game-changing tackles and intercept through balls to stop an attack while also propelling her team's attack forward."

Budig has maintained a 4.15 weighted GPA in the classroom. She has signed a written letter of athletic aid to run track at Northwest Missouri State University this fall.

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 student-athletes, 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>.

###