ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GAT OR ADE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA GIRLS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 17, 2020) — In its 35th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company today announced Zoe Vidaurre of St. John's College High School as its 2019-20 Gatorade District of Columbia Girls Soccer Player of the Year. Vidaurre is the fourth Gatorade District of Columbia Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from St. John's College High School.

The award, which recognizes not only outstanding athletic excellence, but also high standards of academic achievement and exemplary character demonstrated on and off the field, distinguishes Vidaurre as District of Columbia's best high school girls soccer player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Girls Soccer Player of the Year award to be announced in June, Vidaurre joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Alexi Lalas (1987-88, Cranbrook High School, Mich.), Steve Cherundolo (1996-97, Mt. Carmel High School, Calif.), Abby W ambach (1997-98, Our Lady of Mercy School of Young Women, N.Y.), Heather O'Reilly (2001-02, 2002-03, East Brunswick High School, N.J.), Matt Besler (2004-05, Blue Valley W est High School, Kans.), Jack Harrison (2013-14, Berkshire High School, Mass.) and Mallory Pugh (2014-15, Mountain Vista High School, Colo.).

The 5-foot-8 junior defender and midfielder led the Cadets to a 13-3-2 record and the DCSAA Tournament championship this past season. Vidaurre anchored a defense that recorded eight shutouts. The DCSAA Player of the Year and a First Team Washington Post All-Met honoree, she is a two-time First Team All-Washington Catholic Athletic Conference selection.

Vidaurre has volunteered locally with The Miracle League in Germantown, Md., and she has donated her time to multiple community service initiatives through her church youth group. "Zoe Vidaurre is a very skilled and knowledgeable defender," said Danielle Malagari, head coach of National Cathedral School. "She has the ability to take over games. She is fierce and a force on the backline and very difficult to get past."

Vidaurre has maintained a B average in the classroom. She has made a verbal commitment to play soccer on scholarship at The Ohio State University beginning in the fall of 2021.

The <u>Gatorade Player of the Year</u> program annually recognizes one winner in the District of Columbia and each of the 50 states that sanction high school football, girls volleyball, boys and girls cross country, boys and girls bask etball, 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 work with top sport-specific experts and a media advisory board of accomplished, veteran prep sports journalists to determine the state winners in each sport.

Vidaurre joins recent Gatorade District of Columbia Girls Soccer Players of the Year Kiki Rice (2018-19, Sidwell Friends School), Maliah Morris (2017-18, St. John's College High School), Maliah Morris (2016-17, St. John's College High School), Kaili Gregory (2015-16, Woodrow Wilson High School), Marta Sniezek (2014-15, National Cathedral School), and Maddie Kulik (2013-14, Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School) among the state's list of former award winners.

Since the program's inception in 1985, Gatorade Player of the Year award recipients have won hundreds of professional and college championships, and many have also turned into pillars in their communities, becoming coaches, business owners and educators.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit www.Gatorade.com/POY, on Facebook at www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY or follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/Gatorade.