FOREST HILLS CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE MICHIGAN GIRLS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June, 23, 2022) — In its 37th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Theryn Hallock** of **Forest Hills Central High School** is the **2021-22 Gatorade Michigan Girls Soccer Player of the Year**. Hallock is the first Gatorade Michigan Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Forest Hills Central 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 Hallock as Michigan'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, Hallock 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 Wambach (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 West High School, Kans.), Jack Harrison (2013-14, Berkshire High School, Mass.) and Mallory Pugh (2014-15, Mountain Vista High School, Colo.).

The 5-foot-10 senior forward led the Rangers to a 20-2-1 record and the Division 2 state championship this past season. Hallock scored 35 goals and passed for 14 assists, netting the first goal in FHC's 2-1 win over Marian High School in the state final. A member of the 2022 Michigan High School Soccer Coaches Association Dream Team, Hallock hadn't played organized soccer since eighth grade, having devoted her time to basketball. She was named the 2022 Michigan Associated Press Division 1 Girls Basketball Player of the Year.

Hallock has volunteered locally as a peer mentor for students with learning needs, and she has donated her time as a youth basketball coach. "Theryn is an all-around athlete that is on a different level than most high-school players," said Jeff Corstange, head coach of Gull Lake High School. "She is very fast and knows how to finish. She is a freak of an athlete. She is just on a different level."

Hallock has maintained a weighted 3.84 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on scholarship at Michigan 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 that sanction high school 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.

Hallock joins recent Gatorade Michigan Girls Soccer Players of the Year Madison Salzenstein (2020-21, Detroit Country Day School), Avery Fenchel (2019-20, Novi High School), and Jansen Eichenlaub (2018-19 & 2017-18, Marian High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Gatorade has a long-standing history of serving athlete communities and understands how sports instill valuable lifelong skills on and off the field. Through Gatorade's "Play it Forward" platform, Hallock has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national organization of their choosing that helps young athletes realize the benefits of playing sports. Hallock is also eligible to submit a short video explaining why the organization they chose is deserving of one of twelve \$10,000 spotlight grants, which will be announced throughout the year. To date, Gatorade Player of the Year winners' grants have totaled more than \$3.5 million across more than 1,300 organizations.

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 studentathletes, visit playeroftheyear.gatorade.com or follow us on social media on Facebook at facebook.com/GatoradePOY, Instagram at instagram.com/Gatorade and Twitter at twitter.com/Gatorade.