

## **PADUA ACADEMY STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE DELAWARE GIRLS TRACK & FIELD PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

**CHICAGO** (June 24, 2025) — In its 40<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Anna Bockius** of **Padua Academy** is the **2024-25 Gatorade Delaware Girls Track & Field 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 Bockius as Delaware's best high school girls track & field athlete, and she joins an impressive group of alumni that spans CEOs, coaches and star athletes such as Sanya Richards (2001-02, St. Thomas Aquinas High School, Fl.), Sydney McLaughlin-Levrone (2014-15, 2015-16 & 2016-17, Union Catholic High School, N.J.) and Angelina Napoleon (2022-23, Allegany-Limestone Central School, N.Y.).

The 5-foot-8 junior middle-distance and distance talent won the 800- and 1600-meter run and anchored the winning 4x400- and 4x800-meter relay quartets at the Division 1 state meet this past season, leading the Pandas to the team title. Bockius also won the 800 at the state's Meet of Champions and her time of 2:07.21 ranked No. 33 nationally among girls prep competitors this spring. Her personal-best 3200 clocking of 10:20.70 at the New Castle County Championships ranked No. 58 nationally, and her top mile run time of 4:49.51 ranked No. 60.

A student ambassador at Padua Academy, Bockius is a member of her school's HOSA Club, a national organization for students interested in pursuing careers in healthcare, and Debate Club. She has also volunteered locally as a youth track coach. "Anna had a phenomenal season and dominated on the track," said JR Creekmere, head coach of Archmere Academy. "As an opposing coach, I felt as though she was unbeatable. Many athletes from various teams would try different strategies and she still obliterated every competitor."

Bockius has maintained a weighted 4.02 GPA in the classroom. She will begin her senior year of high school 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](https://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com) or follow us on social media on Instagram at [instagram.com/Gatorade](https://instagram.com/Gatorade), Facebook at [facebook.com/GatoradePOY](https://facebook.com/GatoradePOY) and X(Twitter) at [x.com/Gatorade](https://x.com/Gatorade).

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