CAPITAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE IDAHO GIRLS TRACK & FIELD PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 24, 2025) — In its 40th year of honoring the nation's most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Christine Huckins** of **Capital High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade Idaho 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 Huckins as Idaho'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-6 junior sprinter set a state record in the 200-meter dash this past season, clocking a time of 23.58 seconds to smash the previous record by nearly 0.4 seconds. Huckins' top wind-legal 200 clocking of 23.83 seconds at the District 3-6A Championships ranked No. 75 nationally among girls prep competitors this spring. She also broke the tape in the 100 at the district championships in 11.67 seconds, which ranked No. 87 nationally, and anchored the winning 4×100 relay quartet that set a state record in 46.95 seconds. She missed the Class 6A state meet when a bad reaction to medication she received after suffering heat stroke at districts sent her to the hospital for a multi-day stay.

Huckins is a student aid in the Capital High School front office and a member of the school's Multicultural Club. She has volunteered locally at youth track meets and has also donated her time to multiple community service initiatives through her church congregation. "Christine was far and away the top athlete in the state, consistently," said Aaron Olswanger, head coach of Boise High School. "There aren't many athletes who can make everyone in the stadium stop what they're doing and watch—she's one of them."

Huckins has maintained a 3.25 GPA in the classroom. She will begin her senior year of high school 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>.

###