

HERITAGE CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE INDIANA 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 **Kya Crooke** of **Heritage Christian High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade Indiana 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 Crooke as Indiana'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 6-foot senior jumper won the high jump at the HCS Small School meet in May, and her mark of 6 feet, 2 inches set a state record and ranked No. 1 nationally among prep girls competitors this spring. Crooke also won the high jump and long jump at the Girls State Track & Field Championships where her winning leap of 20-4.75 ranked No. 10 nationally. She also cleared 6-0.25 in the high jump in 2025, making her the owner of the top two high jump efforts in the country this past season.

A three-sport athlete, Crooke helped the Heritage Christian girls soccer team win the Class 2A state title last fall. She has volunteered locally at Wheeler Mission, a homeless shelter in Indianapolis, and she has donated her time to multiple community service initiatives as a leader of her church youth group. "Kya Crooke solved the technique puzzle necessary to become the best high jumper in America this spring while also excelling as a premier talent in the long jump runway," said Rich Gonzalez, editor for PrepCalTrack.com. "She graduated as one of the 10 best high jumpers in prep girls national history and she's the only Indiana girl to clear both 6 feet in the high jump as well as 20 feet in the long jump."

Crooke has maintained a 3.13 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a written letter of athletic aid to compete at the University of Arizona 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 or follow us on social media on Instagram at instagram.com/Gatorade, Facebook at facebook.com/GatoradePOY and X(Twitter) at x.com/Gatorade.

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