

WAYZATA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE MINNESOTA 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 **Maddie Gullickson** of **Wayzata High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade Minnesota 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 Gullickson as Minnesota'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 talent swept the 1600- and 3200-meter events at the Class 3A state meet this past season, leading the Trojans to the team title. Gullickson established personal-bests in the 1600 and 3200 at the Section 6-AAA Championships, and her 1600 clocking of 4:44.54 ranked No. 20 nationally among prep girls competitors this spring while her 3200 mark of 10:18.63 ranked No. 44. She also ran the anchor leg for Wayzata's 4x800-meter relay quartet that set a state record of 8:58.22 at the Lake Conference Championships.

Gullickson has volunteered locally with Feed My Starving Children and as a member of her school's Link Crew that helps integrate freshman into Wayzata High School. She has also donated her time at youth track meets. "Capable of scoring in the distance events and as a relay runner, Maddie Gullickson proved herself up for all challenges," said Rich Gonzalez, editor of PrepCalTrack.com. "Her durability and sacrifice helped propel her squad to the team state championship."

Gullickson has maintained a weighted 3.92 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 or follow us on social media on Instagram at [instagram.com/Gatorade](https://www.instagram.com/Gatorade), Facebook at [facebook.com/GatoradePOY](https://www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY) and X(Twitter) at x.com/Gatorade.

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