BILOXI HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE MISSISSIPPI 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 **Julie Segroves** of **Biloxi High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade Mississippi 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 Segroves as Mississippi'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-2 senior pole-vaulter won the Class 7A state outdoor championship for the fourth time this past season, clearing 13 feet to help the Indians finish sixth as a team. Segroves' season-best effort came a week earlier with a clearance of 13-5 at MHSAA South State championships, which ranked No. 11 nationally among prep girls competitors this spring. She graduated as the state pole vault record-holder both outdoors (13-8, 2023) and indoors (13-2, 2022).

Segroves has volunteered locally in her capacity as a member of both the National Honor Society and the Beta Club. She has donated her time assisting youth athletes and she helped raise more than \$2,000 for the Westbrook Vault Club. She has also helped with the distribution of holiday gifts by her school's Campus Security Council. "She couldn't quite get back to the record-setting heights she cleared as an underclassman, but Segroves graduates as the state's best ever in the pole vault, both indoors and outdoors," said Rich Gonzalez, editor of PrepCalTrack.com. "She'll benefit from a great Mountain West vaulting program at Air Force."

Segroves has maintained a 4.06 weighted GPA in the classroom. She will enter the United States Air Forces Academy this fall, where she will compete in track and field.

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>.

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