

## HILLIARD DAVIDSON HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE OHIO 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 **Celia Schulte** of **Hilliard Davidson High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade Ohio 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 Schulte as Ohio'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-5 junior middle-distance talent set a meet record in the 800-meter run at the Division I state championships earlier this month and her time of 2:04.65 ranked No. 10 nationally among prep girls competitors this spring. Schulte also rallied her team from fourth place as the anchor to win the state 4x800 title, which helped propel the Wildcats to the team championship. She also clocked a 4:47.98 in the mile this spring, the No. 52 time nationally.

Schulte has volunteered locally at Avondale Woods, a retirement and assisted-living community. She has also donated her time to multiple community service initiatives through her church congregation. "Celia always takes a no-nonsense approach into her races, flooring the pedal to the metal right from the gun to let her competition know they'd have to endure two minutes of agony to beat her," said Rich Gonzalez of PrepCalTrack.com. "No one else in the Buckeye State sustained that type of pain tolerance."

Schulte has maintained a 3.86 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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