

## SOUDERTON AREA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE PENNSYLVANIA 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 **Destini Smith** of **Souderton Area High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade Pennsylvania 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 Smith as Pennsylvania'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-9 senior field events specialist won the national title in the triple jump at the USATF U-20 National Championships this past season, soaring 42 feet, 7.5 inches, which was the nation's No. 3 effort among prep girls competitors in 2025. She broke the state record in the triple jump at the PIAA Class 3A state meet this past season with a winning jump of 42-7. Smith netted three gold medals at the state meet to lead the Indians to the team title. At the District 1 championships, she cleared 5-9.5 in the high jump, tied for the No. 28 ranking nationally.

A member of the school's Athletic Leadership Council, Smith collaborates with peers to help student-athletes cope with challenges that may arise in their daily life. She has also donated her time to Track Camp, an annual, weeklong instruction camp for children of all ages. "Unbeaten against U.S.-based talent in all three of her jump events this spring, Destini Smith was a scoring machine at the state championships, propelling Souderton Area to a team state title," said Rich Gonzalez of PrepCalTrack.com.

Smith has maintained a 3.97 weighted GPA in the classroom. She has signed a written letter of athletic aid to compete at Kansas State University 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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