TIMPVIEW HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE UTAH 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 **Jane Hedengren** of **Timpview High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade Utah 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 Hedengren as Utah'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-11 senior distance talent won the 3000-meter run at the Nike Outdoor Nationals in a national record clocking of 8:40.03 this past season, obliterating the previous national mark by more than 18 seconds with time that's less than 12 seconds off the world record set by Zola Budd of Great Britain in 1985. Hedengren also set national high school records in the mile, 2-mile and 5,000-meter run this past season. On successive weekends, Hedengren clocked a 4:23.50 at the HOKA Festival of Miles and 9:17.75 in the 2-mile at the Brooks PR Invitational. The former smashed the previous record against a high-school only field by almost four seconds and the latter, which also set a North American U20 record, by almost 17 seconds. The Gatorade National Girls Cross Country Player of the Year last fall and the returning Gatorade State Player of the Year for track and field, she won a pair of titles at the UHigh School 2A state meet in the 1600- and 3200-meter events, leading the Thunderbirds to the Class 5A championship.

Hedengren has volunteered on behalf of the Road Runner Junior Club as a coach and race day official. She has also donated her time as part of multiple community service initiatives with her church youth group. She's also had a summer job assembling engineering kits in association with the BYU Chemical Engineering Department. "Jane Hedengren delivered the multi-generational type of season we've never seen before and might never see again," said Rich Gonzalez of PrepCalTrack.com. "Pure domination in the distance events and a ridiculous re-writing of the record books at multiple distances. The only thing more amazing than her repeated displays of mind-boggling stamina was her sheer grace in doing so, never flashing any sign of physical duress during her parade of record assaults. Her senior year resume was truly remarkable."

Hedengren has maintained a 3.79 weighted GPA in the classroom. She has signed a written letter of athletic aid to compete at Brigham Young University this fall.

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 facebook.com/GatoradePOY and X(Twitter) at x.com/Gatorade.

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