

GALENA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE NEVADA GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (January 21, 2026) — In its 41st year celebrating the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced Gioia Coudriet of Galena High School is the 2025-26 Gatorade Nevada Girls Cross Country 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 excellence in sport, academics and community. The award recognizes Coudriet as Nevada's best high school girls cross country athlete, and she joins an elite legacy that spans professional athletes and coaches to CEOs, such as Jordan Hasay (2008-09, Mission College Preparatory Catholic High School, CA), Katelyn Tuohy (2017-18, 2018-19 & 2019-20, North Rockland High School, NY) and Jane Hedengren (2024-25, Timpview High School, UT).

The 5-foot-2 sophomore won the NIAA Class 5A state meet this past season, clocking a time of 17:54.0 to finish 66 seconds ahead of her next-closest competitor and leading the Grizzlies to sixth place as a team. Coudriet was the second-fastest sophomore at the NXN Southwest Regional Championship, where she finished eighth to capture Second Team All-Region honors. She also took sixth in the Friday Championship race at the prestigious Clovis Invitational in California.

Also a member of her school's mountain biking team, Coudriet has participated in a service-mission trip to support Happy Times Childcare Initiatives in Uganda, where she mentored classes, taught gardening and made bracelets for young kids. She has also donated her time by fundraising for Compassion International. "Gioia Coudriet has become a quick study in the sport," said Rich Gonzalez of PrepCalTrack. "After traveling to California's top invitational for a quality midseason litmus test, she then aced her final exam with a superb showing at Nike Cross Southwest, keeping contact with the nation's best talents at the finish. These next two years will be fun to watch."

Coudriet has maintained a weighted 4.25 GPA in the classroom. She will begin her junior year of high school this fall.

The [Gatorade Player of the Year](#) program annually recognizes one state winner from each of the 50 states and Washington D.C., in 12 different sports: football, girls volleyball, boys and girls cross country, boys and girls basketball, baseball, softball, boys and girls soccer, and boys and girls track & field. In total, 610 high school athletes are honored each year. From the pool of state winners, one national winner is selected in each of the 12 sports. 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 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 \$6.4 million in grants to winners across more than 2,200 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, Facebook at facebook.com/GatoradePOY and X(Twitter) at x.com/Gatorade.

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