

HOPKINTON HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE NEW HAMPSHIRE 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 Maddy Lane of Hopkinton High School is the 2025-26 Gatorade New Hampshire 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 Lane as New Hampshire'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-4 junior won the New England XC Championships this past season and took fourth at the NXN Northeast Regional Championships to earn First Team All-Region honors. Lane also broke the tape at the Division III state meet to capture her third title and lead the Hawks to the team championship. Her personal-best clocking of 17:13.9 was good for second at the NHIAA Meet of Champions.

Lane has volunteered locally as a peer tutor and on behalf of the Hopkinton High Student Agency organization's Grade 6 Buddy Program. A member of her school's Environmental Action Club, she has also donated time providing childcare at PTA meetings, as an HMAA sports mentor and as a neighborhood pet-sitter. "Maddy Lane was the New England champ and was not seriously challenged by any in-state competitor in the vast majority of her races," said Rich Gonzalez of PrepCalTrack. "She showed great turnover with her PR last fall and I expect her to build on her top-five finish at Nike regionals next season."

Lane has maintained an A average in the classroom. She will begin her senior 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](https://www.instagram.com/Gatorade), Facebook at [facebook.com/GatoradePOY](https://www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY) and X(Twitter) at x.com/Gatorade.

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