

LANDMARK CHRISTIAN SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE GEORGIA GIRLS TRACK AND FIELD PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 25, 2026) — In its 41st year celebrating the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced Melanie Doggett of Landmark Christian School is the 2025-26 Gatorade Georgia Girls Track and 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 excellence in sport, academics and community. The award recognizes Doggett as Georgia's best high school girls track and field athlete and she joins an elite legacy that spans professional athletes and coaches to CEOs, such as Sanya Richards (2001-02, St. Thomas Aquinas High School, Florida), Sydney McLaughlin-Levrone (2015-16 & 2016-17, Union Catholic Regional High School, New Jersey) and Jane Hedengren (2024-25, Timpview High School, Utah).

The 5-foot-4 freshman sprinter was unbeaten this year in individual events after sweeping the 100- and 200-meter dash titles at both the Nike Outdoor Nationals and Under Armour Nationals. Doggett won the 100 at Nike in a personal-best, wind-legal time of 11.18 seconds, which ranks No. 2 in girls prep history among 9th-graders. She won the 200 at Nike in a personal-best 22.48, which is also the second-fastest freshman time in prep history. At the Bill Thorn Invitational in April, she clocked a career-best, all-conditions time of 11.01 in the 100 with no wind instruments present.

Involved in Impact Leadership Program and ILT Missions Training, Doggett has volunteered locally reading to elementary school students and donates her time annually during Campbell Elementary School's Field Day. She has also served as a guest speaker for Fast Feel Elite Track Club. "Melanie Doggett turned in a sterling high school debut, breaking the 14-and-under world record in the 200 and producing the second-fastest freshmen clockings in U.S prep girls history in the 100 and 200," said Rich Gonzalez, PrepCalTrack editor. "She'll begin her sophomore year ranked No. 14 in prep history in the 200 and tied for 29th in the 100. That's a different level."

Doggett has maintained a weighted 4.0 GPA in the classroom. She will begin her sophomore 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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