

SUPERIOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE NEBRASKA GIRLS TRACK & FIELD PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 20, 2019) — In its 34th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company today announced **Kalynn Meyer of Superior High School** as its **2018-19 Gatorade Nebraska Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year**. Meyer is the first Gatorade Nebraska Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Superior High School.

The award, which recognizes not only outstanding athletic excellence, but also high standards of academic achievement and exemplary character demonstrated on and off the track, distinguishes Meyer as Nebraska's best high school girls track & field athlete. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year award to be announced in June, Meyer joins an elite alumni association of state track & field award-winners, including Lolo Jones (1997-98, Roosevelt High School, Iowa), Allyson Felix (2002-03, Los Angeles Baptist High School, Calif.), Robert Griffin III (2006-07, Copperas Cove High School, Texas), Grant Fisher (2013-14 & 2014-15, Grand Blanc High School, Mich.) and Candace Hill (2014-15, Rockdale County High School, Ga.).

The state's returning Gatorade Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year, the 6-foot-3 junior set meet records in both the shot put and discus throw at the Class C state championships this past season, leading the Wildcats to a sixth-place finish as a team. Meyer's launched the discus 176 feet, 8 inches, which ranked No. 1 in the nation among prep competitors at the time of her selection. Her personal-best put of the shot (49-5) ranked No. 2 in the nation. She was the 2018 Omaha World Herald Athlete of the Year and the Lincoln Journal Star Prep Girls Athlete of the Year.

A member of the Superior High student council and her Future Farmers of America chapter, Meyer has volunteered locally as a youth volleyball and basketball coach. "Kalynn had a phenomenal year," said Mikayla Niederklein, head coach of Hastings St. Cecilia High. "For a high school athlete to see continual improvement from meet to meet is impressive. That is exactly what Kalynn has done, finishing with her best throws at the end of the season."

Meyer has maintained an A average in the classroom. She has made a verbal commitment to compete on an athletic scholarship at the University of Nebraska beginning in the fall of 2020.

The [Gatorade Player of the Year](#) program annually recognizes one winner in the District of Columbia and each of the 50 states that sanction high school 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. From the 12 national winners, one male and one female athlete are each named Gatorade High School Athlete of the Year. In all, 607 athletes are honored each year.

Two-time winner Meyer joins Gatorade Nebraska Girls Track & Field Athletes of the Year MacKenzie Brandl (2016-17, Stanton High School), and Chloe Akin-Otiko (2015-16, 2014-15 & 2013-14, Bellevue West High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a part of Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Meyer also has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national youth sports organization of her choosing. She is also eligible to submit an essay to win one of twelve \$10,000 spotlight grants for the organization of choice, which will be announced throughout the year.

Since the program's inception in 1985, Gatorade Player of the Year award recipients have won hundreds of professional and college championships, and many have also turned into pillars in their communities, becoming coaches, business owners and educators.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit www.Gatorade.com/POY, on Facebook at www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY or follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/Gatorade.