

**MARSHALL COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE KENTUCKY GIRLS TRACK & FIELD PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

**CHICAGO** (July 2, 2021) — In its 36<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Sophie Galloway of Marshall County High School** as its **2020-21 Gatorade Kentucky Girls Track & Field Player of the Year**. Galloway is the first Gatorade Kentucky Girls Track & Field Player of the Year to be chosen from Marshall County 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 field, distinguishes Galloway as Kentucky's best high school girls track & field athlete. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Girls Track & Field Player of the Year award to be announced in July, Galloway joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, 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 three-time returning Gatorade Girls Track & Field Player of the Year as a student at Graves County High, the 6-foot senior swept the 100-meter hurdles, long jump and triple jump at the Class AAA state meet, setting state meet records in the 100 hurdles and triple jump. At the time of her selection, Galloway's winning triple jump of 41 feet, 7.75 inches ranked No. 4 nationally among prep competitors in the event in 2021. She already owns the state record with a leap of 42-5.75 last summer. Galloway's winning 100-hurdle time of 14.10 seconds ranked No. 47 nationally while her top long jump of 19-3 ranked No. 72. She concluded her prep track and field career with eight state titles.

Galloway sponsored her own track and field scholarship fund to benefit a graduating athlete at her former school. She has also volunteered locally as a youth track coach, and she has donated her time to multiple fundraising campaigns to benefit special-needs children and a women's shelter. "Sophie is a phenomenal athlete—as a coach you don't see that very often in your career," said Cory Westerfield, head coach of Marshall County High. "She has been phenomenal to watch develop and amazes me with the things she is able to do."

Galloway has maintained a weighted 3.91 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete on an athletic scholarship at the University of Tennessee this fall.

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. The selection process is administered by the Gatorade Player of the Year Selection Committee, which works with top sport-specific experts and a media advisory board of accomplished, veteran prep sports journalists to determine the state winners in each sport.

Four-time winner Galloway joins recent Gatorade Kentucky Girls Track & Field Players of the Year Michaela Reinhart (2016-17, Lexington Catholic High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Through Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Galloway has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national youth sports organization of their choosing. Galloway is also eligible to submit a 30-second video explaining why the organization they chose is deserving of one of twelve \$10,000 spotlight grants, which will be announced throughout the year. To date, Gatorade Player of the Year winners' grants have totaled more than \$2.7 million across 1,117 organizations.

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 [playeroftheyear.gatorade.com](http://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com), on Facebook at [facebook.com/GatoradePOY](https://facebook.com/GatoradePOY) or follow us on Twitter at [twitter.com/Gatorade](https://twitter.com/Gatorade).

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