

**CONARD HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE CONNECTICUT GIRLS TRACK & FIELD PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 28, 2023) — In its 38th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Tess Sherry** of **Conard High School** is the **2022-23 Gatorade Connecticut Girls Track & Field Player of the Year**. Sherry is the third Gatorade Connecticut Girls Track & Field Player of the Year to be chosen from Conard 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 Sherry as Connecticut'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, Sherry joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Jasmine Moore (2018-19, Lake Ridge High School, Texas), Sydney McLaughlin (2016-17, 2015-16 & 2014-15, Union Catholic High School, N.J.), and Lolo Jones (1997-98, Roosevelt High School, Iowa).

The 5-foot-5 sophomore won the State Open 1600-meter run in a personal-best time of 4:48.77 this past season, leading the Red Wolves to a seventh-place finish as a team. Sherry's winning time ranked No. 40 nationally among girls prep competitors at the time of her selection. She broke the tape in the 1600 and 3200 at the Class LL state meet, and her 15th-place finish in the mile run (4:49.20) at New Balance Nationals Outdoor ranked No. 51 nationally among girls prep competitors in 2023.

A member of the Spanish National Honor Society, Sherry has volunteered locally at an elementary school and has also donated her time as a lifeguard at Hartford Country Club. "Tess Sherry is one of the most improved distance runners in the country, enjoying significant breakthroughs this season from the 800 to the 3200," said Erik Boal, editor at DyeStat.com. "Sherry captured her first Open Meet state title in the 1600, continuing the legacy of family success achieved the previous four years by brothers Gavin, a former Gatorade Player of the Year in cross country and track, and Callum."

Sherry has maintained a 4.37 weighted 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 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 leverages experts including coaches, scouts, media and others as sources to help evaluate and determine the state winners in each sport.

Sherry joins recent Gatorade Connecticut Girls Track & Field Players of the Year Sydney Segalla (2021-22, Housatonic Valley Regional High School), Sydney Masciarelli (2020-21 & 2018-19, Marianapolis Preparatory School), and Tess Stapleton (2019-20, Fairfield Ludlowe High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Being a Gatorade Player of the Year means paying it forward for the next generation. Through Gatorade's Play it Forward initiative, every Player of the Year receives a grant to give to one of Gatorade's social impact partners, supporting Gatorade's ambition to fuel the future of sport. To date, Gatorade Player of the Year winners' grants have totaled more than \$3.5 million across more than 1,300 organizations.

For nearly 40 years, Gatorade has honored high school athletes at the top of their game as teammates, supporting their communities and achieving academic success. From CEOs and coaches to star athletes and community leaders, Gatorade Player of the Year winners showcase the power of sport.

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 Facebook at facebook.com/GatoradePOY, Instagram at instagram.com/Gatorade and Twitter at twitter.com/Gatorade.