

**OKC STORM HOME SCHOOL ASSOCIATION STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE OKLAHOMA 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 **Maggie Bookout** of **OKC Storm Home School Association** is the **2022-23 Gatorade Oklahoma Girls Track & Field Player of the Year**. Bookout is the first Gatorade Oklahoma Girls Track & Field Player of the Year to be chosen from OKC Storm Home School Association.

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 Bookout as Oklahoma'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, Bookout 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-10 senior launched the best discus throw by an Oklahoma prep girl in 16 years with her effort of 169 feet, 1.5 inches during the Oklahoma Throws Series schedule this past season, concluding her career with the No. 2 mark in state history and the state's best distance this year. Bookout ranked No. 7 nationally among girls prep competitors in 2023. She also produced a personal-best 44-5 effort in the shot put, which ranked No. 65 nationally.

A member of the National Honor Society, Bookout has volunteered locally at the Oklahoma Regional Food Bank and the Project 66 Food Bank along with the Bella SPCA Animal Rescue Center and Cleats for Kids. She has also donated her time to the Mercy Hospital Children's Christmas party, and during a service-mission trip to Vancouver, Canada, where she assisted the unhoused and helped people in need with laundry expenses. "Maggie Bookout commanded the spotlight whenever she stepped into a ring this season," said Erik Boal, editor at DyeStat.com. "Bookout surpassed the 160-foot mark three more times this spring in addition to her national top 10 effort, giving her seven beyond that threshold in the past two years."

Bookout, who is home-schooled principally by her mother, a certified teacher, has maintained a 4.12 GPA. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete on scholarship at the University of Oklahoma 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.

Bookout joins recent Gatorade Oklahoma Girls Track & Field Players of the Year Payton Hinkle (2021-22, Broken Arrow High School), Jada Atkinson (2020-21, Southmoore High School), Daphne Matthews (2019-20, Heritage Hall), and Madison Collier (2018-19, Hennessey 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.