

**ESSEX HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE VERMONT 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 **Scarlet Stimson** of **Essex High School** is the **2022-23 Gatorade Vermont Girls Track & Field Player of the Year**. Stimson is the fourth Gatorade Vermont Girls Track & Field Player of the Year to be chosen from Essex 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 Stimson as Vermont'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, Stimson 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-6 senior set a Division 1 state record by taking second in the Rising Stars 800 at New Balance Nationals this past season with a personal-best time of 2:13.04. Stimson won Division 1 state titles in the 800 and 1500 meters, the latter in a personal-best 4:48.16, and also ran a leg for the victorious 4x400 relay quartet, helping the Hornets capture the team championship. She also crossed the line in second in the 800 at the New England championships.

A member of the National Honor Society and National Spanish Honor Society, Stimson has volunteered locally at youth track and field camps, in addition to contributing to the school's STEM Academy and Global Leadership Program. "Scarlet Stimson enjoyed significant breakthroughs this season at the Division 1 state finals, the New England championships and New Balance Nationals, clocking the fastest 800 in state Division 1 history," said Erik Boal, editor at DyeStat.com. "Stimson helped Essex capture the team championship and also earned silver in the 800 at the New England outdoor championships."

Stimson has maintained a 4.02 GPA in the classroom. She will attend Brown University this fall, where she will compete in cross country and track and field.

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.

Stimson joins recent Gatorade Vermont Girls Track & Field Players of the Year Loghan Hughes (2021-22, Bellows Free Academy), Jada Diamond (2020-21, Mount Mansfield Union High School), Rebecca Crosier (2019-20, Mount Anthony Union High School), and Ella Whitman (2018-19, Champlain Valley Union 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.