## ELIZABETH SETON HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE MARYLAND GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY PLAYER OF THE YEAR

**CHICAGO** (January 22, 2024) — In its 39<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Eva Rogers** of **Elizabeth Seton High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade Maryland Girls Cross Country Player of the Year**. Rogers is the first Gatorade Maryland Girls Cross Country Player of the Year to be chosen from Elizabeth Seton High School.

The award, which celebrates the nation's top high school athletes for excellence on the field, in the classroom and in the community, distinguishes Rogers as Maryland's best high school girls cross country player. From CEOs and coaches to star athletes, Gatorade Player of the Year winners showcase the power of sport, touting an all-star group of alumni that includes Irene Riggs (2022-23, 2021-22 & 2020-21, Morgantown High School, Morgantown, W. Va.), Katelyn Tuohy (2019-20, 2018-19 & 2017-18, North Rockland High School, Thiels, N.Y.) and Jordan Hasay (2008-09, Mission College Preparatory Catholic High School, San Luis Obispo, Calif.).

The 5-foot-9 senior won the Washington Catholic Athletic Conference Championship meet with a time of 18:16, breaking the tape 1:25 ahead of her next-closest competitor and leading the Road Runners to a fourth-place finish as a team. The 2023 Washington Post All-Met Player of the Year, Rogers placed 15th at the Nike Cross Southeast Regional Championships and was undefeated against in-state competition in 2023.

The treasurer of her school's Vincentian Service Club, Rogers has helped plan and execute the group's annual Walk for the Poor and its Breast Cancer Awareness fundraiser. She has also volunteered locally by cooking monthly meals for Our Daily Bread in Baltimore and by serving as a peer math and science tutor. "Eva is a fierce and amazing competitor," said Desmond Dunham, head coach of St. John's College High School. "She is one of the best local runners I've ever witnessed and she is destined for greatness on the NCAA level and beyond."

Rogers has maintained a weighted 4.43 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to run on scholarship at the University of Maryland this fall.

The <u>Gatorade Player of the Year</u> 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.

Rogers joins recent Gatorade Maryland Girls Cross Country Players of the Year Leah Stephens (2022-23, Our Lady of Good Counsel High School) and Juliette Whittaker (2021-22, 2020-21, & 2019-20, Mount de Sales Academy), among the state's list of former award winners.

As part of Gatorade's commitment to breaking down barriers in sport, every Player of the Year also receives a grant to donate to a social impact partner. To date, Gatorade Player of the Year winners' grants have totaled more than \$4.9 million across more than 1,600 organizations.

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 <a href="mailto:facebook.com/GatoradePOY">facebook.com/GatoradePOY</a>, Instagram at <a href="mailto:instagram.com/Gatorade">instagram.com/Gatorade</a> and Twitter at <a href="mailto:twitter.com/Gatorade">twitter.com/Gatorade</a>.