CAMBRIDGE RINDGE & LATIN SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE MASSACHUSETTS GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (January 22, 2024) — In its 39th year of honoring the nation's most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Aoife Shovlin** of **Cambridge Rindge & Latin School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade Massachusetts Girls Cross Country Player of the Year**. Shovlin is the first Gatorade Massachusetts Girls Cross Country Player of the Year to be chosen from Cambridge Rindge & Latin 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 Shovlin as Massachusetts' 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-8 junior captured the Division 1 state title this past season, breaking the tape in course record time of 18:16.77 and leading the Falcons to the team championship. Shovlin then repeated the feat at the All-State Meet, setting a new course record (18:06.29) to help Rindge & Latin finish fourth overall. She took 10th at the Foot Locker Northeast Regional, becoming the lone Massachusetts runner to qualify for Nationals, where she finished 32nd. She also finished ninth in the featured Eastern States Championship race at the Manhattan Invitational—clocking a personal-best 14:59.0 for 2.5 miles—the largest meet on the East Coast.

A member of the Rindge & Latin French Club and School Improv troupe, she has donated her time locally to the Charles River Clean-Up Club as well as multiple road races. She has also volunteered on behalf of the Harvard Square Homeless Shelter as part of a collaboration with Harvard University students in association with her school's Club 4 service group. "Aoife Shovlin smashed course records at both the Division 1 state meet and the subsequent All-State Meet," said Rich Gonzalez of PrepCalTrack. "Her performances at the Manhattan invite and Foot Locker were icing on the cake."

Shovlin has maintained an A average in the classroom. She will begin her senior year of high school 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.

Shovlin joins recent Gatorade Massachusetts Girls Cross Country Players of the Year Meg Madison (2022-23 & 2021-22, Winsor School), Carmen Luisi (2020-21, Holliston High School) and Lucy Jenks (2019-20, Newton South High School), 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 studentathletes, visit playeroftheyear.gatorade.com or follow us on social media on Facebook at <u>facebook.com/GatoradePOY</u>, Instagram at <u>instagram.com/Gatorade</u> and Twitter at <u>twitter.com/Gatorade</u>.