

**TIMPVIEW HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE UTAH 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 **Jane Hedengren** of **Timpview High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade Utah Girls Cross Country Player of the Year**. Hedengren is the first Gatorade Utah Girls Cross Country Player of the Year to be chosen from Timpview 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 Hedengren as Utah’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-11 junior won the Class 5A state title this past season, breaking the tape in a personal-best time of 17:14.7 and leading the Thunderbirds to the state team championship. Hedengren, who was forced to cross-train for much of the season due to injury, also won the Sweepstakes Race at the Woodbridge Classic in California, the largest meet in the nation. She clocked a personal-best 3-mile time of 15:32.50 at the event.

Hedengren has a part-time job at an engineering company in the area. She has volunteered locally as part of multiple community service initiatives with the Church of Latter Day Saints. “Despite being challenged by injury, Jane Hedengren started the season with a bang and ended with a flourish,” said Rich Gonzalez of PrepCalTrack. “She won the nation’s largest and deepest in-season meet in mid-September, then returned to capture the Class 5A state crown and spark her team to a championship.”

Hedengren has maintained a 3.72 GPA in the classroom. She will begin her senior 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.

Hedengren joins recent Gatorade Utah Girls Cross Country Players of the Year Andie Aagard (2022-23, Lone Peak High School), Addi Bruening (2021-22, Herriman High School), Carlee Hansen (2020-21, Woods Cross High School) and Eliza Arrington (2019-20, Lone Peak 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 student-athletes, visit [playeroftheyear.gatorade.com](http://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com) or follow us on social media on Facebook at [facebook.com/GatoradePOY](https://facebook.com/GatoradePOY), Instagram at [instagram.com/Gatorade](https://instagram.com/Gatorade) and Twitter at [twitter.com/Gatorade](https://twitter.com/Gatorade).

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