EAST VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE WASHINGTON 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 **Logan Hofstee** of **East Valley High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade Washington Girls Cross Country Player of the Year**. Hofstee is the first Gatorade Washington Girls Cross Country Player of the Year to be chosen from East Valley 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 Hofstee as Washington'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-4 senior finished ninth at the Nike Cross Nationals Final this past season, earning Second Team All-America honors as the state's top prep runner at the meet. Hofstee qualified for nationals by taking second at the NXR Northwest Regional Championships, clocking a personal-best time of 16:53.70. She also won the Class 2A state meet this past season with an all-class best time of 17:20.8. She won eight of her 10 races and was the state's top finisher in all of them.

Hofstee has volunteered locally on behalf of the Coeur d'Alene Ironman event and the Spokane Marathon. She has also donated her time by working the school concession stands at various sporting events. "Logan Hofstee's senior season was loaded with success, punctuated by her Second Team All-America performance at Nike nationals," said Rich Gonzalez of PrepCalTrack. "She submitted one of the finest seasons in recent memory by a distance talent from the Evergreen State."

Hofstee has maintained a 4.0 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a national letter of intent to run on scholarship at Gonzaga University 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.

Hofstee joins recent Gatorade Washington Girls Cross Country Players of the Year Anna Callahan (2022-23, Skyline High School), Macy Marquardt (2021-22, Kennewick High School) and Julia David-Smith (2020-21 & 2019-20, Issaquah 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 or follow us on social media on Facebook at facebook.com/Gatorade and Twitter at twitter.com/Gatorade.