NORTHLAND PINES HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE WISCONSIN 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 **Nora Gremban** of **Northland Pines High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade Wisconsin Girls Cross Country Player of the Year**. Gremban is the first Gatorade Wisconsin Girls Cross Country Player of the Year to be chosen from Northland Pines 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 Gremban as Wisconsin'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-5 senior took third at the Nike Cross Nationals Heartland Regional Championships this past season, crossing the line in 17:15.60 to qualify for the NXN Final as the state's top prep girl at the event. Gremban won the WIAA Division 2 state meet, breaking the tape in an all-class best time of 17:46.7. She also raced to victory at the Great Northern Conference Meet with a personal best clocking of 16:06.60.

Gremban has volunteered locally on behalf of a literacy outreach initiative called Reading Buddies and with Feed Our Rural Kids (FORK), a backpack program supporting local youth. She serves as president of her Health Occupations Student Association (HOSA) chapter. "Nora Gremban won all six of her races in her home state, including a dominant, 23-second win in capturing her first Division 2 state crown," said Rich Gonzalez of PrepCalTrack. "Her performance at Nike regionals to qualify for the country's deepest distance field at nationals speaks for itself."

Gremban has maintained a 3.59 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a national letter of intent to run on scholarship at the University of Wisconsin 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.

Gremban joins recent Gatorade Wisconsin Girls Cross Country Players of the Year Sara Mlodik (2022-23, D.C. Everest Senior High School), Lauren Pansegrau (2021-22, Middleton High School) and Kora Malecek (2020-21 & 2019-20, Onalaska 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/GatoradePOY, Instagram at instagram.com/Gatorade and Twitter at twitter.com/Gatorade.