

**SITKA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE ALASKA GIRLS TRACK & FIELD PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 25, 2024) — In its 39th year of honoring the nation’s most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Clare Mullin** of **Sitka High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade Alaska Girls Track & Field Player of the Year**. Mullin is the first Gatorade Alaska Girls Track & Field Player of the Year to be chosen from Sitka 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 Mullin as Alaska’s best high school girls track & field athlete. 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 Sanya Richards-Ross (2001-02, St. Thomas Aquinas High School, Fla), Sydney McLaughlin (2016-17, 2015-16 & 2014-15, Union Catholic High School, N.J.) and Angelina Napoleon (2022-23, Allegany-Limestone Central School, N.Y.).

The 5-foot-4 junior middle distance and distance talent won Division 2 state titles in the 800-, 1,600- and 3,200-meter run this past season, and was part of the second-place 4x400 relay quartet, leading the Wolves to the Division 2 state championship. In the USA Track and Field-sanctioned Brian Young Invitational, an All-Division meet of the state’s top athletes, Mullin broke the tape in the 800 with a personal-best time of 2:12.19. She also took first in the 1,600 in 4:58.40.

A member of the Sitka High School robotics team, Mullin has volunteered locally as a youth soccer coach for Sitka Rush Soccer, offering instruction for players in kindergarten through fifth grade. She also served as a coach at a one-day, female-led soccer clinic for girls this past winter. “Clare is a dedicated competitor and has the sports IQ to be successful in the distance running events,” said Serge Duchatellier, head coach at Mountain City Christian Academy. “As a Division 2 school, our athletes sometimes struggle against the Division 1 athletes at the BYI meet, but not Clare. She gave everyone a run for their money and she’s a fierce competitor.”

Mullin has maintained a 4.0 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.

Mullin joins recent Gatorade Alaska Girls Track & Field Players of the Year Olyvia Mamae (2022-23 & 2021-22, East Anchorage High School), Naomi Bailey (2020-21, West Valley High School) and Hailey Williams (2019-20, Delta Junction 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, the Gatorade Player of the Year program has provided more than \$4.9 million in grants to winners across more than 1,900 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 X(Twitter) at x.com/Gatorade.