

**OLDHAM COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE KENTUCKY 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 **Tula Fawbush** of **Oldham County High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade Kentucky Girls Track & Field Player of the Year**. Fawbush is the first Gatorade Kentucky Girls Track & Field Player of the Year to be chosen from Oldham County 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 Fawbush as Kentucky’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 senior distance talent was the top prep finisher in the 3000-meter steeplechase at the USATF U20 Championships this past season, taking fifth in 10:38.33 to clock the No. 2 time in the nation this spring and the No. 10 time in girls prep history. Fawbush also earned All-American honors with a silver medal in the 2K steeplechase at Nike Outdoor Nationals, then broke the tape in the 2K steeplechase at the Steepleville Invitational with a time of 6:45.14—the No. 6 time in the country in 2024. She graduated as the state record-holder in both steeplechase events and she won the KHSAA Class 3A state title in the 1600. Her personal-best 4:45.36 in that event in March ranked No. 25 among the nation’s girls prep competitors in 2024.

A member of both the National Honor Society and Beta Club, Fawbush has volunteered locally performing community service with her church. “Tula Fawbush’s already impressive resume—ranking among the top seven all-time in the Bluegrass State in three events— was further boosted during a grueling stretch postseason stretch, punctuated by her U.S. Top 10 all-time performance in the steeplechase at the collegiate distance (3K),” said Rich Gonzalez, editor for PrepCalTrack.com. “The only high-end distance runner on the map to compete in four individual events during national championship week, her durability proved valuable in the barrier races [steeple events].”

Fawbush has maintained a weighted 4.44 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete on scholarship at the University of Tennessee 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.

Fawbush joins recent Gatorade Kentucky Girls Track & Field Players of the Year Jessica Secor (2022-23, duPont Manual High School), Ciara O’Shea (2021-22, Madison Central High School) and Sophie Galloway (2020-21& 2019-20, Graves County 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.

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