

**PIONEER HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE MICHIGAN 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 **Rachel Forsyth** of **Pioneer High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade Michigan Girls Track & Field Player of the Year**. Forsyth is the sixth Gatorade Michigan Girls Track & Field Player of the Year to be chosen from Pioneer 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 Forsyth as Michigan’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 state’s 2023-24 Gatorade Girls Cross Country Player of the Year, the 5-foot-6 senior distance talent smashed three state records this past season—including one shared as part of a national title-winning 4xMile relay quartet—and spearheaded the Pioneers’ runner-up team finish at the Lower Peninsula Division 1 state meet with wins in the 1600- and 3200-meter run. Forsyth’s 1600 clocking of 4:38.28 set a new state standard and ranked as the nation’s No. 5 clocking by a prep girl this spring. She followed up by breaking the tape in the 800 at the MITCA Champions of Champions Festival with a time of 2:03.87, good for another state record and also the nation’s No. 2 clocking in 2024, which ranks No. 29 in prep history. She took third in the mile at New Balance Nationals Outdoor in a personal-best 4:40.68—No. 9 among national prep competitors this year.

Forsyth has volunteered locally on behalf of a Babysit for Neighbors church group. She has also donated her time serving on the planning committee for an Environmental Clean-Up project in association with her church community. “Rachel Forsyth went out with the biggest bang during the final month of her prep career, reminding everyone why she’s the best in the Wolverine State,” said Rich Gonzalez, editor for PrepCalTrack.com. “Over the first two weekends in June, she smashed the state records then showed impressive durability when she competed in five events including four relays at NBNO, capturing All-American honors in three of them.”

Forsyth has maintained a 3.88 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete on scholarship at Michigan State 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.

Forsyth joins recent Gatorade Michigan Girls Track & Field Players of the Year Nonah Waldron (2022-23, Oak Park High School), Kaila Jackson (2021-22, Renaissance High School), Audrey DaDamio (2020-21, Seaholm High School) and Aasia Laurencin (2019-20, Oak Park 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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