

BEDFORD HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE NEW HAMPSHIRE 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 **Anika Scott** of **Bedford High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade New Hampshire Girls Track & Field Player of the Year**. Scott is the first Gatorade New Hampshire Girls Track & Field Player of the Year to be chosen from Bedford 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 Scott as New Hampshire’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-6 junior hurdler/jumper won the 100-meter high hurdles and the long jump at the New England Outdoor championships this past season, setting state records in both events. Scott’s winning leap of 19 feet, 11.75 inches ranked No. 23 nationally among girls prep competitors this spring. Her time of 13.94 seconds in the 100 hurdles ranked No. 54. She also won the long jump, 100 hurdles and 300 intermediate hurdles at the Division I state meet, leading the Bulldogs to the team title. She earned All-American honors in the long jump by taking fourth at New Balance Nationals Outdoor.

A member of numerous academic honor societies at Bedford High, Scott has volunteered locally as part of multiple community service initiatives through her church. “Anika is amazing,” said Stan Lyford, head coach of Portsmouth High School. “Impressive is one word I can use to describe her, but competitive also fits. My first wish would be that she had been on my team. The second wish, which came true, was that I got to see her up close. You don’t see an athlete like that in New Hampshire in a typical lifetime.”

Scott has maintained a weighted 4.28 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.

Scott joins recent Gatorade New Hampshire Girls Track & Field Players of the Year Aida Wheat (2022-23, Kennett High School), Soraya Ross (2021-22, Nashua South High School), Addison Cox (2020-21, Coe-Brown Northwood Academy) and Caroline Fischer (2019-20, Bishop Guertin 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.