SPANISH SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE NEVADA GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (January 16, 2025) — In its 40th year of honoring the nation's most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Kambri Felsted** of **Spanish Springs High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade Nevada Girls Cross Country Player of the Year**. Felsted is the second Gatorade Nevada **Girls Cross Country** Player of the Year to be chosen from Spanish Springs High School.

Gatorade Player of the Year is the top honor in high school sports, celebrating the nation's best high school athletes for their success on the field, in the classroom and in the community. The award distinguishes Felsted as Nevada's best high school girls cross country athlete, and she joins an impressive group of alumni that spans CEOs, coaches and star athletes such as Jordan Hasay (2008-09, Mission College Preparatory Catholic High School, Ca.), Katelyn Tuohy (2017-18, 2018-19 & 2019-20, North Rockland High School, N.Y.) and Addison Ritzenhein (2023-24, Niwot High School, Co.).

The 5-foot-8 senior broke the tape at the NIAA Class 5A state meet this past season with a time of 18:38.1, winning by a fraction of a second and leading the Cougars to ninth place as a team. Felsted was the top Nevada finisher at the Nike Cross Southwest Regional, crossing the line in 46th with a season-best clocking of 18:00.2—the state's top time last fall by 12 seconds. She won five races on the year, including the Nevada Union Invitational in California.

Felsted has served as secretary of her school's National Honor Society and as President of the Rotary International Interact Club. She has also volunteered locally in Stake Youth Council for her church by planning activities in the community. Each year, when she's traveled to Arizona to compete at Nike Cross Regionals, she's donated an afternoon assisting Feed My Starving Children, which packs nutrient-rich meals for children in impoverished countries. "Never having won a single race in her prior three years of competition, Kambri found the 'Winner's Circle' on five occasions in 2024, including the coveted Class 5A state title in thrilling fashion—beating a two-time state champion by a split second," said Rich Gonzalez of PrepCalTrack. "She was the class of Nevada last fall."

Felsted has maintained a weighted 4.60 GPA in the classroom. She remains undecided upon her collegiate destination.

The Gatorade Player of the Year program annually recognizes one winner in the District of Columbia and each of the 50 states across 12 different high school sports – 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.

Felsted joins recent Gatorade Nevada Girls Cross Country Players of the Year Eleanor Raker (2023-24 & 2022-23, Galena High School), Olivia Garcia (2021-22, Cimarron-Memorial High School) and Kendra Lusk (2020-21, Spring Creek 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 \$5.6 million in grants to winners across more than 2,000 organizations.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit <u>playeroftheyear.gatorade.com</u> or follow us on social media on Instagram at <u>instagram.com/Gatorade</u>. Facebook at <u>facebook.com/GatoradePOY</u> and X(Twitter) at <u>x.com/Gatorade</u>.