CARDINAL RITTER COLLEGE PREP STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE MISSOURI GIRLS TRACK & FIELD PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 24, 2025) — In its 40th year of honoring the nation's most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Kyndall Harrington-Spain** of **Cardinal Ritter College Prep** is the **2024-25 Gatorade Missouri Girls Track & Field Player of the Year**.

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 Harrington-Spain as Missouri's best high school girls track & field athlete, and she joins an impressive group of alumni that spans CEOs, coaches and star athletes such as Sanya Richards (2001-02, St. Thomas Aquinas High School, Fl.), Sydney McLaughlin-Levrone (2014-15, 2015-16 & 2016-17, Union Catholic High School, N.J.) and Angelina Napoleon (2022-23, Allegany-Limestone Central School, N.Y.).

The 5-foot-6 senior hurdler set a state meet record in the 300-meter hurdles at the Class 5 state meet last month and her time of 40.80 seconds ranked No. 5 nationally among prep girls competitors this spring. In the same meet, Harrington-Spain clocked a personal-best 13.37 in the 100 hurdles, which tied for No. 6 nationally. She finished the season unbeaten against in-state foes after leading the Lions to fourth place as a team at the state meet. She took fourth in the 400 hurdles at New Balance Outdoor Nationals (U.S. No. 6; 58.71) to earn All-America honors.

A member of her area's Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Harrington-Spain has volunteered locally as a community services leader at Cardinal Ritter College Prep. She has also donated her time as a youth hurdles coach at summer track camps. "The Kyndall Harrington-Spain era has concluded at Cardinal Ritter Prep and featured a slew of team and individual state titles," said Rich Gonzalez of PrepCalTrack.com. "She came within a whisker of breaking two state hurdling records and she's one of Missouri's all-time great prep competitors."

Harrington-Spain has maintained a 3.30 weighted GPA in the classroom. She has signed a written letter of athletic aid to compete at the University of South Carolina this fall.

The <u>Gatorade Player of the Year</u> 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.

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>.

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