## NOLENSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE TENNESSEE GIRLS TRACK & FIELD PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 24, 2025) — In its 40<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced Claire Stegall of Nolensville High School is the 2024-25 Gatorade Tennessee 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 Stegall as Tennessee'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 state's returning Gatorade Player of the Year, the 5-foot-2 senior middle distance and distance talent set state records in the 800-meter run as well as the mile and 2-mile events this past season. Stegall finished fourth in the mile at the New Balance Nationals Outdoor with a time of 4:36.89, which ranked No. 7 nationally among prep girls competitors this spring. She took third at the Arcadia Invitational in the 2-mile, clocking 10:01.82, which ranked No. 6 nationally. She also broke the tape in both the 800 and 1600 for a second straight year at the Great Eight Invitational, eclipsing her own state record in the 800 with a time of 2:04.59, which ranked No. 9 nationally. She brought home gold in the 800 and 1600 at the Class 3A state meet as well.

A member of her school's chapter of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Stegall has volunteered locally at the Nolensville Food Pantry and for Best Buddies. She has also donated her time to multiple community service initiatives through her church congregation. "Claire is a great team player as well as a great person," said Kyle Manderfeld, head coach of Nolensville High School. "She's on a 4x400 relay team that depends on her and she makes sure she shows up for them all the time. She's a great person first and a great athlete, second."

Stegall has maintained a 4.66 weighted GPA in the classroom. She has signed a written letter of athletic aid to compete at the University of Florida 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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