HERBERT HOOVER HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE WEST VIRGINIA 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 **Maysen Fletcher** of **Herbert Hoover High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade West Virginia 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 Fletcher as West Virginia'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-2 freshman distance talent swept the 800-, 1600- and 3200-meter events at the Class 2A state meet this past season, setting meet records in the latter two while leading the Huskies to second place as a team. Fletcher smashed the meet record in the 3200 by more than 38 seconds with a time of 10:19.41, which ranked No. 52 nationally among prep girls competitors this spring. The 2024-25 Gatorade West Virginia Girls Cross Country Player of the Year, she clocked a PR of 9:46.94 in the 3000 at the Penn Relays Carnival to No. 24 nationally in that event.

Fletcher has volunteered locally with the Charleston Humane Society and the Special Olympics, and she has donated her time as part of multiple community service initiatives through the Girl Scouts of the USA. "Maysen was very good on the track this year," said Paul Williams, head coach of Roane County High School. "There were numerous times in distance races that she would lap the competition. Then, in races where you would not expect to see it, she would even lap individuals that were in position to place."

Fletcher has maintained a 4.63 weighted GPA in the classroom. She will begin her sophomore year of high school 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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