

★ StarTribune
SPORTS

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SPORTSPERSON OF THE YEAR JESSIE DIGGINS

Her bravest year yet

Afton native Jessie Diggins continues to make history as the United States' best-ever cross-country skier. She's the first American to collect 16 career World Cup wins, and at the world championships in February, she became the first American to win a world title in an individual cross-country race. In December, she won two straight 10k freestyle races by remarkable 23-second margins. But at times in 2023, Diggins wasn't sure she could keep competing at all. Story, **C4-5**

Illustration by KAGAN McLEOD • Special to the Star Tribune