

**LEGACY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE NORTH DAKOTA BOYS TRACK & FIELD PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 29, 2020) — In its 35th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company today announced Calob Larson of Legacy High School as its 2019-20 Gatorade North Dakota Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Larson is the first Gatorade North Dakota Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Legacy High School.

The award, which recognizes not only outstanding athletic excellence, but also high standards of academic achievement and exemplary character demonstrated on and off the field, distinguishes Larson as North Dakota's best high school boys track & field athlete. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year award to be announced in July, Larson joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Lolo Jones (1997-98, Roosevelt High School, Iowa), Allyson Felix (2002-03, Los Angeles Baptist High School, Calif.), Robert Griffin III (2006-07, Copperas Cove High School, Texas), Grant Fisher (2013-14 & 2014-15, Grand Blanc High School, Mich.) and Candace Hill (2014-15, Rockdale County High School, Ga.).

The state's returning Gatorade Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year, the 6-foot-1, 170-pound junior finished second in the 400-meter dash at the Reykjavik International Games in Iceland this winter. Representing the National Athletic Sports Foundation, Larson crossed the line in 48.65 seconds, which ranked as the nation's No. 30 mark among prep competitors during the 2020 indoor season. Larson swept the 100-meter dash, the 200 and the 400 at the Class A Outdoor state meet as both a freshman and sophomore. He also finished 12th in the Emerging Elite Division 400 race at the 2019 New Balance Nationals Outdoor.

Larson has volunteered locally with Open Your Heart, which collects food for families in need. "Calob is a special talent," said Darrell Anderson, former head coach of Bismarck High. "He has gears. He gets to 'go to gone' in a hurry, and he seems to really enjoy the challenge of any event."

Larson has maintained a 3.30 GPA in the classroom. He will begin his senior year of high school this fall.

The [Gatorade Player of the Year](#) program annually recognizes one winner in the District of Columbia and each of the 50 states that sanction high school 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 work with top sport-specific experts and a media advisory board of accomplished, veteran prep sports journalists to determine the state winners in each sport.

Two-time winner Larson joins recent Gatorade North Dakota Boys Track & Field Athletes of the Year Levi Rockey (2017-18, Century High School), Hunter Lucas (2016-17, Davies High School), Zach Sweep (2015-16, Century High School), Jon Tharaldsen (2014-15, Bismarck High School), and Landon Jochim (2013-14, Century High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

Since the program's inception in 1985, Gatorade Player of the Year award recipients have won hundreds of professional and college championships, and many have also turned into pillars in their communities, becoming coaches, business owners and educators.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit www.Gatorade.com/POY, on Facebook at www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY or follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/Gatorade.

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