

**Contact: Matt Schiffman (312-729-3672)**

**KODIAK HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE ALASKA BOYS TRACK & FIELD ATHLETE OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 20, 2013) — In its 28<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Levi Thomet of Kodiak High School as its 2012-13 Gatorade Alaska Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Thomet is the third Gatorade Alaska Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Kodiak 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 track, distinguishes Thomet as Alaska'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 June, Thomet joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Ryan Hall (1999-01, Big Bear HS, Calif.), Meb Keflezighi (1993-94, San Diego HS, Calif.), Derek Jeter (1991-92, Kalamazoo HS, Mich.), Candace Parker (2001-02, Naperville Central HS, Ill.), Mark Sanchez (2004-05, Mission Viejo HS, Calif.) and Lolo Jones (1997-98, Roosevelt HS, Ia.).

The 2012-13 Gatorade Alaska Boys Cross Country Runner of the Year, Thomet won the 1600-meter run with a time of 4:25.83 and the 3200-meter run in 9:27.27 at the Class 4A state meet this season, leading the Bears to the team title. Named the meet's most outstanding competitor, the 5-foot-6 sophomore placed third in the 800-meter run in 2:00.66 and anchored the 4x800-meter relay squad that broke the tape in 8:23.19. Thomet's mile time of 4:13.13 at the Portland Track Festival ranked No. 45 among U.S. prep competitors in 2013 at the time of his selection.

Thomet has maintained a 3.75 GPA in the classroom. Also a hockey standout and an accomplished pianist, he has served on his school's student council.

"Levi is ambitious, and a very hard worker," said Kodiak head coach Marcus Dunbar. "He is a tough competitor who welcomes good competition and is always looking to improve."

Thomet will begin his junior 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 high school sports leadership team in partnership with [USA TODAY High School Sports](#), 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.

Thomet joins recent Gatorade Alaska Boys Track & Field Athletes of the Year Tyler Rohde (2011-12, Chugiak High School), Elliott Bauer (2010-11, South Anchorage High School), Silas Talbot (2009-10, Service), Trevor Dunbar (2008-09, Kodiak), and Jordan Clarke (2007-08 & 2006-07, Bartlett) among the state's list of former award winners.

To keep up to date on the latest happenings, become a fan of Gatorade Player of the Year on Facebook and follow us on Twitter. For more on the Gatorade Player of the Year program, including nomination information, a complete list of past winners and the announcement of the Gatorade National Player of the Year, visit [www.gatorade.com/poy](http://www.gatorade.com/poy).

###