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

CHICAGO (June 19, 2015) — In its 30th 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 2014-15 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 5-foot-7, 128-pound senior captured three individual championships at the Class 4A state meet this season, leading the Bears to the team title. The state's two-time returning Gatorade Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year, Thomet won the 800-meter run with a time of 1:57.30, the 1,600 in a state-record 4:12.17 and the 3,200 in a state-record 9:09.41. Also the two-time reigning Gatorade Alaska Boys Cross Country Runner of the Year, his mile time of 4:07.60 at the Oregon Twilight Meet and his 3,200 clocking at the Big C Relays both ranked amongst the nation's top 16 performances by prep competitors in 2015 at the time of his selection.

Also a talented musician, Thomet has maintained a 3.72 GPA in the classroom. In addition to donating his time as a youth running and hockey instructor, he has volunteered on behalf of the National Honor Society.

"Levi is a superior athlete, yes, but he is also one of the most humble, gracious and appreciative young men to compete," said Gary Howell, coach of rival Wasilla High. "His unassuming demeanor is something that is very refreshing when it comes to opposing teams, especially when he is one of the best runners in the nation."

Thomet remains undecided upon a collegiate destination.

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.

Three-time winner Thomet joins 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.

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