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**BUTTE HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE MONTANA 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 Dalton Daum of Butte High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade Montana Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Daum is the first Gatorade Montana Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Butte 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 Daum as Montana'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, Daum 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 6-foot-2, 185-pound senior sprinter won a pair of individual state championships this spring and led the Bulldogs to a ninth-place finish as a team at the Class AA state meet. Daum broke the tape in the 100-meter dash with a time of 10.81 seconds as well as the 200, in 21.67. The state's returning Gatorade Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year, he accounted for 28 of his team's 32 points at the state meet and became just the second athlete in Montana history to repeat as state champion in the sprints in consecutive seasons.

Daum has maintained a 3.82 GPA in the classroom. A member of the National Honor Society, he has volunteered locally on behalf of multiple area food and clothing drives to benefit families in need. He has also donated his time as a youth football and track & field coach.

"Dalton Daum has great top-end speed," said Butte High head coach Arie Grey. "His drive phase in the 100-meter dash is what separates him from the competition."

Daum has signed a National Letter of Intent to play football on scholarship at the University of Montana 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.

Two-time winner Daum joins Gatorade Montana Boys Track & Field Athletes of the Year Matt Tokarz (2012-13, Flathead High School), Zach Perrin (2011-12, Flathead High School), Scotty Koehler-Owens (2010-11 & 2009-10, Billings Senior High School), Chris Wilson (2008-09, C.M. Russell), Josh Pelczar (2007-08, Billings West), and Seth Grossman (2006-07, Flathead High School) 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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