

**PHILLIPS EXETER ACADEMY STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE NEW HAMPSHIRE BOYS TRACK & FIELD PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 25, 2025) — In its 40th year of honoring the nation's most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Jaylen Bennett** of **Phillips Exeter Academy** is the **2024-25 Gatorade New Hampshire Boys Track & Field Player of the Year**.

Gatorade Player of the Year is the top honor in high school sports, celebrating the nation's best high school athletes for their success on the field, in the classroom and in the community. The award distinguishes Bennett as New Hampshire's best high school track & field athlete, and he joins an impressive group of alumni that spans CEOs, coaches and star athletes such as Alan Webb (2000-01, South Lakes High School, Va.), Kerron Clement (2002-03, Laporte High School, Texas) and Christian Miller (2023-24, Creekside High School, Fl.).

The 5-foot-8, 155-pound senior sprinter earned All-American status in both the 200- and 400-meter dashes at the Nike Outdoor Nationals this past season. His seventh-place 400 finish in a time of 47.32 seconds is the fastest clocking in state history by a high school-age boy and ranked No. 99 nationally among prep boys competitors this spring. Bennett set a meet record in the 200-meter dash at the New England Prep School Track Association Division I Championships this past season, repeating as champion with a time of 21.29 seconds. He also won a third straight 400 title while helping the Big Red 4x100- and 4x400-meter relay quartets break the tape in both races. He earned meet MVP honors and led Phillips Exeter to the team title.

A Boston Globe All-Scholastic soccer player as well as a practiced drummer, Bennett has volunteered locally as part of multiple community service initiatives through his church. "Jaylen was extraordinary this spring," said Keri Lambert, head coach of Phillips Andover Academy. "What's most impressive about Jaylen is that he has been an outstanding runner for years now, and yet he just keeps improving, setting new personal records and reminding us that we don't know his ceiling yet."

Bennett has maintained a B-plus average in the classroom. He will attend Princeton University, where he will compete in track and field, beginning this fall.

The [Gatorade Player of the Year](#) program annually recognizes one winner in the District of Columbia and each of the 50 states across 12 different high school sports – 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 leverages experts including coaches, scouts, media and others as sources to help evaluate and determine the state winners in each sport.

As part of Gatorade's commitment to breaking down barriers in sport, every Player of the Year also receives a grant to donate to a social impact partner. To date, the Gatorade Player of the Year program has provided more than \$5.6 million in grants to winners across more than 2,000 organizations.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit playeroftheyear.gatorade.com or follow us on social media on Instagram at instagram.com/Gatorade, Facebook at facebook.com/GatoradePOY and X(Twitter) at x.com/Gatorade.

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