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**GALENA CITY SCHOOLS STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE ALASKA BOYS TRACK & FIELD PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 21, 2018) — In its 33<sup>rd</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, today announced Jacob Moos of Galena City Schools as its 2017-18 Gatorade Alaska Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Moos is the first Gatorade Alaska Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Galena City Schools.

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 Moos 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, Moos joins an elite alumni association of state track & field award-winners, 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 reigning Gatorade Boys Cross Country Runner of the Year, the 5-foot-10, 160-pound senior won the all-class state title in the 3200-meter run and the Division II state title in the 1600-meter run this past season, leading the Hawks to an eighth-place finish at the Division II state meet. At the Brian Young Invitational, Moos clocked the best 3200 time in Alaska this spring, breaking the tape in 9:13.39. At the same meet, Moos took second in the 1600 with a personal-best time of 4:17.16.

A talented biathlete, Moos has donated his time assisting the elderly in his community and has volunteered locally on behalf of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. "Jacob's greatest assets as a runner are his work ethic, that he's willing to do the work that it takes," said Galena coach Jon Korta. "He knows how to set a goal for himself and to do what it takes to accomplish those goals. My biggest challenge as his coach is holding him back when he tries to do too much."

Moos has maintained a 4.0 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a national letter of intent to compete in cross country and track and field on scholarship at the University of Alaska-Anchorage 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.

Moos joins recent Gatorade Alaska Boys Track & Field Athletes of the Year Brandon Nicholson (2016-17, Colony High School), Brett Morman (2015-16, Kodiak High School), Levi Thomet (2014-15, 2013-14 & 2012-13, Kodiak High School), 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), Jordan Clarke (2007-08, Bartlett), and Tyler Dinnan (2006-07, Juneau-Douglas) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a Gatorade Player of the Year, Moos will be able to select a national or local youth sports organization to receive a grant as part of the Gatorade Play It Forward program. Every Gatorade Player of the Year state winner receives a \$1,000 grant to donate and will have the opportunity to enter for an additional \$10,000 spotlight grant by writing a brief essay explaining why their selected organization deserves additional support. 12 spotlight grants - one for each sport - will be announced throughout the year.

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).

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