

**SCARBOROUGH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE MAINE BOYS TRACK & FIELD PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 29, 2020) — In its 35th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company today announced Jarett Flaker of Scarborough High School as its 2019-20 Gatorade Maine Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Flaker is the third Gatorade Maine Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Scarborough 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 field, distinguishes Flaker as Maine'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 July, Flaker joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, 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 5-foot-11, 185-pound senior won the 200-meter dash with a time of 23.11 seconds and the 400 dash in 51.34 at the Class A indoor state meet this past winter, leading the Red Storm to the state title as a team. Flaker's season-best clocking of 48.57 in the 400 broke the indoor state record, giving him at least a share of eight Maine records in his career—six individual and two relays. In 2019, he won the 100, 200 and 400 at the Class A outdoor state meet, while also anchoring the first-place 4x400 relay quartet. Flaker graduated with 16 gold medals in state championship competition.

Also a football standout, Flaker has raised funds to benefit cancer research and served as a student leader in the Reducing Sexism and Violence Program. He has also volunteered on behalf of youth track programs. "Jarett has established himself as one of the best track and field athletes in Maine history," said Scarborough coach Derek Veilleux. "He's continually performed at a high level, but he has always been a team-first student athlete, willing to give up individual success to do what the team needed to be successful."

Flaker has maintained an A-minus average in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete in track and field on scholarship at George Mason University.

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.

Flaker joins recent Gatorade Maine Boys Track & Field Athletes of the Year Cayden Spencer-Thompson (2018-19, Mattanawcook Academy), Cayden Spencer-Thompson (2017-18, Mattanawcook Academy), Jake Koffman (2016-17, Orono High School), Sam Rusak (2015-16, Scarborough High School), Isaiah Harris (2014-15, Lewiston High School), and Daniel Curts (2013-14, Ellsworth High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

Since the program's inception in 1985, Gatorade Player of the Year award recipients have won hundreds of professional and college championships, and many have also turned into pillars in their communities, becoming coaches, business owners and educators.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit www.Gatorade.com/POY, on Facebook at www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY or follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/Gatorade.