

**PHILLIPS ACADEMY STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE MASSACHUSETTS 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 Alex Fleury of Phillips Academy as its 2019-20 Gatorade Massachusetts Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Fleury is the second Gatorade Massachusetts Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Phillips Academy.

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 Fleury as Massachusetts'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, Fleury 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, 145-pound senior set a state indoor record in the mile at the Boston University Last Chance Meet in February. Fleury's time of 4:05.57 ranked as the nation's No. 2 mark among prep competitors during the winter season. During the 2020 indoor campaign, Fleury posted rankings of No. 1 in the country in the 1,000-meter run, No. 5 in the 1,500-meter run and No. 7 in the 3,000-meter run. A two-time Lawrence Eagle Tribune Indoor Track & Field Merrimack Valley MVP, he also won the 2020 USATF New England Championship this winter. A New Balance Indoor All-American in the 800-meter run and the mile, and he finished fourth at the 2019 New Balance Nationals Outdoor in the mile, also earning All-American honors.

A peer mentor at Phillips Academy, Fleury has volunteered locally at a homeless shelter and food bank. "Alex's work on the track has been incredible," said Grant Gonzalez, assistant coach at Northfield Mount Hermon School. "Last year's double win in the 800 and 1,500 in our NEPSTA Championship meet was quite the show."

Named a Boston Globe Foundation/Richard J. Phelps Scholar-Athlete, Fleury has maintained an A average in the classroom. He will attend Harvard University, where he will run with the track team.

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.

Fleury joins recent Gatorade Massachusetts Boys Track & Field Athletes of the Year Ryan Oosting (2018-19, Arlington High School), Sam Welsh (2017-18, Concord Academy), Erick Duffy (2016-17, North Andover High School), Thomas Ratcliffe (2015-16, Concord-Carlisle High School), Sean Caveney (2014-15, Andover High School), and Garrett O'Toole (2013-14, Middlesex 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.

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