

**SKYLINE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE UTAH 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 Thomas Boyden of Skyline High School as its 2019-20 Gatorade Utah Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Boyden is the first Gatorade Utah Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Skyline 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 Boyden as Utah'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, Boyden 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-8, 125-pound senior set state records in the 1,600-meter run and the mile during the abbreviated spring season. Boyden won the 1,600 at the 2020 Snow Canyon Invitational with a time of 4:05.16, which ranked as the nation's No. 47 clocking in prep history. He also clocked a personal-best 8:50.65 in the 3,200-meter run at Snow Canyon, which ranked as the nation's No. 1 mark among prep indoor competitors this spring. A two-time Foot Locker All-American in cross country, he crossed the line third this spring at the Quarantine Clasico in the mile with a time of 4:04.50.

Boyden has volunteered at the Junior High School State Cross Country Championships. He has also donated his time as a Spanish tutor. "Thomas was the most dominant cross country and distance runner in the state," said Justin Redfearn, head coach of Snow Canyon High School. "He has been so amazing to watch the last few years."

Boyden has maintained a 3.97 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a national letter of intent to compete on an athletic scholarship at Stanford 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.

Boyden joins recent Gatorade Utah Boys Track & Field Athletes of the Year Blake Freeland (2018-19, Herriman High School), Dallin Draper (2017-18, Delta High School), Hunter Woodhall (2016-17, Syracuse High School), Casey Clinger (2015-16, American Fork High School), Chase Heiner (2014-15, Provo High School), and Cam Dopp (2013-14, Woods Cross 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.

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