

**BORAH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE IDAHO BOYS CROSS COUNTRY PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (April 15, 2021) — In its 36th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company today announced Nathan Green of Borah High School as its 2020-21 Gatorade Idaho Boys Cross Country Player of the Year. Green is the first Gatorade Idaho Boys Cross Country Player of the Year to be chosen from Borah 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 Green as Idaho's best high school boys cross country player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Boys Cross Country Player of the Year award to be announced in April, Green joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Lukas Verzbicas (2010-11, 2009-10, Carl Sandburg High School, Orland Park, Ill.), Megan Goethals (2009-10, Rochester High School, Rochester Hills, Mich.), Jordan Hasay (2008-09, Mission College Preparatory Catholic High School, San Luis Obispo, Calif.) and Chris Derrick (2007-08, Neuqua Valley High School, Naperville, Ill.).

The state's two-time returning Gatorade Player of the Year, the 5-foot-10, 135-pound senior won the Class 5A state meet for a third-straight year this past season with a time of 15:26.53, breaking the tape 12.54 seconds ahead of his next-closest competitor. A 2019 Nike Cross National All-American, Green was undefeated against in-state competition and finished the season ranked No. 6 in the country by MileSplit.com.

Green has volunteered locally as a youth cross country coach and he has donated his time to multiple community service initiatives through the YMCA. "Nathan has a significant natural gift inside him," said Ty Axtman, head coach of Timberline High. "That, paired with a good and consistent work ethic, has helped Nathan become one of the nation's premier distance runners."

Green has maintained a weighted 3.26 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to run on scholarship at the University of Washington 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 works with top sport-specific experts and a media advisory board of accomplished, veteran prep sports journalists to determine the state winners in each sport.

Three-time winner Green joins recent Gatorade Idaho Boys Cross Country Players of the Year Nicholas Russell (2017-18, Bishop Kelly High School), and Austin Byrer (2016-17, Lewiston High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Through Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Green has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national youth sports organization of their choosing. Green is also eligible to submit a 30-second video explaining why the organization they chose is deserving of one of twelve \$10,000 spotlight grants, which will be announced throughout the year. To date, Gatorade Player of the Year winners' grants have totaled more than \$2.7 million across 1,117 organizations.

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.playeroftheyear.gatorade.com, on Facebook at www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY or follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/Gatorade.

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