

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

CHICAGO (July 8, 2021) — In its 36th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Mateo Althouse of Lincoln High School** as its **2020-21 Gatorade Oregon Boys Track & Field Player of the Year**. Althouse is the third Gatorade Oregon Boys Track & Field Player of the Year to be chosen from Lincoln 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 Althouse as Oregon's best high school boys track & field athlete. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Boys Track & Field Player of the Year award to be announced in July, Althouse 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-9, 125-pound senior won the 1500-meter run at the Class 6A championships this past season with a time of 3:51.16. Althouse also took second in the 3000 in 8:17.54, which ranked as the nation's No. 2 performance among 2021 prep competitors. In addition, he broke the tape in the 1500 at the Portland Track Festival with a time of 3:48.59, which ranked No. 3 nationally.

A member of the National Honor Society and the Latino Student Action Committee, Althouse has volunteered locally on behalf of Hacienda Community Development Corporation and a children's book bank. "Mateo is the type of athlete that everybody—regardless of what school they're from—cheers for," said Lincoln coach Eric Dettman. "His work ethic is second to none and he is phenomenally humble and kind."

Althouse has maintained a weighted 4.36 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to run on scholarship at Georgetown University 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.

Althouse joins recent Gatorade Oregon Boys Track & Field Players of the Year Micah Williams (2019-20, 2018-19, & 2017-18, Benson Polytechnic High School), and Henry Mong (2016-17, Franklin High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Through Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Althouse has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national youth sports organization of their choosing. Althouse 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 playeroftheyear.gatorade.com, on Facebook at facebook.com/GatoradePOY or follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/Gatorade.

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