

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

CHICAGO (June 29, 2022) — In its 37th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Isaiah Sategna** of **Fayetteville High School** is the **2021-22 Gatorade Arkansas Boys Track & Field Player of the Year**. Sategna is the third Gatorade Arkansas Boys Track & Field Player of the Year to be chosen from Fayetteville 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 Sategna as Arkansas' 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, Sategna 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 (2014-15 & 2013-14, Grand Blanc High School, Mich.) and Candace Hill (2014-15, Rockdale County High School, Ga.).

Also state's 2019-20 Gatorade Boys Track & Field Player of the Year, the 5-foot-11, 170-pound senior won the 110-meter high hurdles, the 300-meter intermediate hurdles, the long jump and tied for first in the 100-meter dash at the Class 6A state meet this past season, leading the Bulldogs to the team title. Sategna's winning state-meet leap of 24 feet, 8 inches in the long jump set a state record and ranked No. 11 nationally among prep competitors in 2022 at the time of his selection. Sategna also set state records earlier in the spring in the 110 hurdles and 300 hurdles. A two-time All-State wide receiver for the Fayetteville High football team, he also won four individual state titles with the Bulldogs' indoor track team last winter.

Sategna has volunteered locally with the Special Olympics and as a youth track coach. He has also donated his time to multiple community service initiatives through his church youth group. "Isaiah is by far the best high school track and field athlete that I've ever seen as a coach in 12 years," said Brad LaBass, head coach of Bentonville West High. "As hard as it was as an opposing coach to have to compete against him, he's the type of athlete that I can boast about having seen him run and jump in person. His talent is something the state of Arkansas hasn't seen in many years."

Sategna has maintained a 3.01 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to attend the University of Arkansas this fall where he will play football and compete in track and field on scholarship.

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 leverages experts including coaches, scouts, media and others as sources to help evaluate and determine the state winners in each sport.

Two-time winner Sategna joins recent Gatorade Arkansas Boys Track & Field Players of the Year Sam Hurley (2020-21, Fayetteville High School), Haze Farmer (2018-19, Lake Hamilton High School), and Camren Fischer (2017-18, Fayetteville High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Gatorade has a long-standing history of serving athlete communities and understands how sports instill valuable lifelong skills on and off the field. Through Gatorade's "Play it Forward" platform, Sategna has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national organization of their choosing that helps young athletes realize the benefits of playing sports. Sategna is also eligible to submit a short 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 \$3.5 million across more than 1,300 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 or follow us on social media on Facebook at facebook.com/GatoradePOY, Instagram at instagram.com/Gatorade and Twitter at twitter.com/Gatorade.

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