## GORHAM HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE MAINE BOYS TRACK & FIELD PLAYER OF THE YEAR

**CHICAGO** (June 29, 2022) — In its 37<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Andrew Farr** of **Gorham High School** is the **2021-22 Gatorade Maine Boys Track & Field Player of the Year**. Farr is the first Gatorade Maine Boys Track & Field Player of the Year to be chosen from Gorham 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 Farr as Maine'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, Farr 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.).

The 5-foot-9, 140-pound senior won three individual events and anchored the second place 4x400-meter relay at the Class A state meet this past season. Farr broke the tape in the 100-meter dash in 11.03 seconds, took the 200 in 22.41 and captured the 400 in 49.06. He also won the 200 at the New England Interscholastic Championships in 21.95, and placed second in both the 100 and the 400.

President of his school's Student Council, Farr has volunteered locally on behalf of a food pantry, a Unified basketball team supporting physically challenged children, blood-donation drives and youth track programs. "Andrew was really tested this year in the postseason," said Gorham High School coach Jason Tanguay. "He rose to the occasion by beating all his competition, winning three individual state titles and anchoring the 4x400 relay from seventh place in the race to a photo finish, runner-up position. What an exclamation point to a storied career for an outstanding young man."

Farr has maintained an A average in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to run at Yale University this fall.

The <u>Gatorade Player of the Year</u> 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.

Farr joins recent Gatorade Maine Boys Track & Field Players of the Year Tyler Patterson (2020-21, Brunswick High School), Jarett Flaker (2019-20, Scarborough High School), and Cayden Spencer-Thompson (2018-19 & 2017-18, Mattanawcook Academy), 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, Farr 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. Farr 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.