

**TUALATIN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE OREGON 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 **Caleb Lakeman** of **Tualatin High School** is the **2021-22 Gatorade Oregon Boys Track & Field Player of the Year**. Lakeman is the first Gatorade Oregon Boys Track & Field Player of the Year to be chosen from Tualatin 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 Lakeman 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, Lakeman 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-10, 140-pound senior won the 1500-meter run at the Class 6A state meet this past season with a time of 3:50.78, also capturing the 3000-meter run in 8:13.31. Lakeman also anchored the third-place 4x400 relay. His season-best effort of 8:10.91 in the 3000 ranked as the nation's No. 1 performance among prep competitors in 2022.

A member of the Key Club, Lakeman has volunteered locally on behalf of a food pantry and youth summer camps. "Caleb is a dedicated competitor and a supportive teammate," said Tualatin High School distance coach Andrew Bonica. "He's set challenging goals for himself and accomplished them all."

Lakeman has maintained a weighted 4.27 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 leverages experts including coaches, scouts, media and others as sources to help evaluate and determine the state winners in each sport.

Lakeman joins recent Gatorade Oregon Boys Track & Field Players of the Year Mateo Althouse (2020-21, Lincoln High School), and Micah Williams (2019-20, 2018-19, & 2017-18, Benson Polytechnic 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, Lakeman 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. Lakeman 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.