

**EAST ANCHORAGE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE ALASKA GIRLS TRACK & FIELD PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 30, 2022) — In its 37th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Olyvia Mamae** of **East Anchorage High School** is the **2021-22 Gatorade Alaska Girls Track & Field Player of the Year**. Mamae is the second Gatorade Alaska Girls Track & Field Player of the Year to be chosen from East Anchorage 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 Mamae as Alaska's best high school girls track & field athlete. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Girls Track & Field Player of the Year award to be announced in July, Mamae 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-5 junior won three individual events at the Division 1 state meet this past season. Mamae broke the tape in the 100-meter dash in 12.32 seconds and also won the 200 in 25.37 and the 100-meter high hurdles in 15.21. She also broke the tape in the 100, 200, 100 hurdles and the 300-meter intermediate hurdles at the Region Championships.

A devoted member of her church youth group, Mamae has volunteered locally on behalf of community clean-up initiatives and youth track programs. "Olyvia had plans to win state in four individual events, but she ended up hitting a hurdle in the 300 prelims and didn't make it to finals, despite a huge lead," said East Anchorage coach Christina Shurtleff. "She didn't let that bring her down though. She stayed focused and went on to dominate in the other three events. She's a one-of-a-kind athlete and I'm excited to see what she does in the future."

Mamae has maintained a 3.66 GPA in the classroom. She will begin her senior year of high school 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.

Mamae joins recent Gatorade Alaska Girls Track & Field Players of the Year Naomi Bailey (2020-21, West Valley High School), Hailey Williams (2019-20 & 2018-19, Delta Junction High School), and Emma Nelson (2017-18, Chugiak 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, Mamae 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. Mamae 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.