

**CENTENNIAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE NEVADA 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 **Zoey Bonds** of **Centennial High School** is the **2021-22 Gatorade Nevada Girls Track & Field Player of the Year**. Bonds is the fifth Gatorade Nevada Girls Track & Field Player of the Year to be chosen from Centennial 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 Bonds as Nevada'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, Bonds 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 senior won four events at the Class 5A state meet this past season, leading the Bulldogs to a first-place finish as a team. Bonds won the 100-meter high hurdles, the 300-meter intermediate hurdles, the high jump and the long jump. Also the heptathlon winner at the Great Southwest Classic, her best mark in the 100 hurdles—14.00 seconds at the Class 5A Southern Regional Meet—ranked as the nation's No. 36 time among prep girls competitors in 2022 at the time of her selection. The 2022 Nevada Preps Girls Athlete of the Year, Bonds is the third member of her family to win the Gatorade award, following in the footsteps of older sisters Tiana (2013-14) and Talie (2016-17).

Bonds served as part of a three-week humanitarian trip to Zimbabwe during the pandemic, delivering medical supplies, helping to build schools and distributing clothes to people in need. She has volunteered locally with a youth group in Indian Springs, a town north of Las Vegas. "One word describes Zoey this spring: dominant," said Nick Meis, head coach of Palo Verde High School. "There was no one as dominant as her all season in any event. She is a fierce competitor who was able to manage competing in multiple events at the same time."

Bonds has maintained a weighted 3.99 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete on an athletic scholarship at Brigham Young 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.

Bonds joins recent Gatorade Nevada Girls Track & Field Players of the Year Ajanae Cressey (2020-21, Sierra Vista High School), Ashley Moore (2019-20 & 2018-19, Centennial High School), and Gizelle Reid (2017-18, Rancho 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, Bonds 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. Bonds 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.