

**CRATER HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE OREGON BOYS CROSS COUNTRY PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

**CHICAGO** (January 30, 2023) — In its 38<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Tyrone Gorze** of **Crater High School** is the **2022-23 Gatorade Oregon Boys Cross Country Player of the Year**. Gorze is the second Gatorade Oregon Boys Cross Country Player of the Year to be chosen from Crater 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 Gorze as Oregon's best high school boys cross country player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Boys Cross Country Player of the Year award to be announced in February, Gorze joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners, including Parker Wolfe (2020-21, Cherry Creek High School, Greenwood Village, Colo.), Nico Young (2019-20, Newbury Park High School, Newbury Park, Calif.), Megan Goethals (2009-10, Rochester High School, Rochester Hills, Mich.) and Jordan Hasay (2008-09, Mission College Preparatory Catholic High School, San Luis Obispo, Calif.).

The state's returning Gatorade Boys Cross Country Player of the Year, the 5-foot-11, 130-pound senior raced to All-America honors by taking third at Nike Cross Nationals in a time of 14:53.8. Gorze broke the tape at the Woodbridge Classic—the nation's largest meet —and also won the Class 5A individual state championship. He led the Comets to the team title in the process.

He has volunteered locally through numerous church service projects such as food drives and cleaning hiking trails. "Tyrone Gorze emerged as an iconic figure within state annals this past season in joining the likes of revered Oregon prep legends Steve Prefontaine and Galen Rupp," said PrepCalTrack.com editor Rich Gonzalez. "A sensational big-meet performer, the University of Washington signee broke six course records and won the Woodbridge Classic (the nation's largest meet) before placing third at Nike Cross Nationals in the strongest prep field ever assembled."

Gorze has maintained a weighted 3.60 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to run on scholarship at the University of Washington 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.

Two-time winner Gorze joins recent Gatorade Oregon Boys Cross Country Players of the Year Cameron Stein (2020-21, Ashland High School), and Evan Holland (2019-20 & 2018-19, Ashland High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Being a Gatorade Player of the Year means paying it forward for the next generation. Through Gatorade's Play it Forward initiative, every Player of the Year receives a grant to give to one of Gatorade's social impact partners, supporting Gatorade's ambition to fuel the future of sport. To date, Gatorade Player of the Year winners' grants have totaled more than \$3.5 million across more than 1,300 organizations.

For nearly 40 years, Gatorade has honored high school athletes at the top of their game as teammates, supporting their communities and achieving academic success. From CEOs and coaches to star athletes and community leaders, Gatorade Player of the Year winners showcase the power of sport.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit [playeroftheyear.gatorade.com](http://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com) or follow us on social media on Facebook at [facebook.com/GatoradePOY](https://facebook.com/GatoradePOY), Instagram at [instagram.com/Gatorade](https://instagram.com/Gatorade) and Twitter at [twitter.com/Gatorade](https://twitter.com/Gatorade).