

**SALESIANUM HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE DELAWARE BOYS TRACK & FIELD PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

**CHICAGO** (June 27, 2024) — In its 39<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation’s most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Ethan Walther** of **Salesianum High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade Delaware Boys Track & Field Player of the Year**. Walther is the second Gatorade Delaware Boys Track & Field Player of the Year to be chosen from Salesianum High School.

The award, which celebrates the nation’s top high school athletes for excellence on the field, in the classroom and in the community, distinguishes Walther as Delaware’s best high school boys track & field player. From CEOs and coaches to star athletes, Gatorade Player of the Year winners showcase the power of sport, touting an all-star group of alumni that includes Alan Webb (2000-01, South Lakes High School, Va.), Kerron Clement (2002-03, Laporte High School, Texas) and Grant Fisher (2014-15 & 2013-14, Grand Blanc High School, Mich.).

The 5-foot-7, 140-pound junior distance talent set a state record in the 800-meter run at the DIAA Meet of Champions this past season, clocking a winning time of 1:49.02, which ranked No. 5 nationally among prep boys competitors this spring. Walther, who also PR’d in the 1600 in 2024, won the 800 and the 3200 at the DIAA Division 1 state meet, leading the Sallies to the team title. He was the state’s Gatorade Boys Cross Country Player of the Year this past school year as well.

A member of his school’s National Honor Society, Walther has volunteered locally as a youth lacrosse coach. While attending Delaware Military Academy, he was a National Junior ROTC platoon leader and held the rank of chief. “Ethan Walther developed into one of Delaware’s all-time great middle-distance talents on the track,” said Rich Gonzalez, editor of PrepCalTrack. “His finish in the 800 at the HOKA Festival of Miles proved that to make inroads on the national scene, elite competitors need to travel whenever possible to seek out top competition. Walther proved that’s how you get better.”

Walther has maintained a 4.04 GPA in the classroom. He will begin his 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.

Walther joins recent Gatorade Delaware Boys Track & Field Players of the Year Yougendy Mauricette (2022-23 & 2021-22, Sussex Tech High School), Zyaire Nuriddin (2020-21, Howard High School of Technology) and Brahmir Vick (2019-20, Middletown High School), among the state’s list of former award winners.

As part of Gatorade’s commitment to breaking down barriers in sport, every Player of the Year also receives a grant to donate to a social impact partner. To date, the Gatorade Player of the Year program has provided more than \$4.9 million in grants to winners across more than 1,900 organizations.

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 X(Twitter) at [x.com/Gatorade](https://x.com/Gatorade).