

**BERGEN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE NEW JERSEY 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 **Benjamin Shue** of **Bergen Catholic High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade New Jersey Boys Track & Field Player of the Year**. Shue is the first Gatorade New Jersey Boys Track & Field Player of the Year to be chosen from Bergen Catholic 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 Shue as New Jersey'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 6-foot-2, 275-pound junior throws specialist won the national championship in the discus at New Balance Nationals Outdoor this past season and took second in the shot put to earn dual All-American honors. At the Non-Public Group A state meet, Shue launched the shot a personal-best 69 feet, 2 inches, a winning effort that ranked No. 6 nationally among boys prep competitors this spring at the time of his selection. He also PR'd at the NJSIAA Meet of Champions, this time in the discus, winning with a throw of 205-4, which ranked tied for seventh nationally.

Also an offensive lineman on the school's state championship football team as well as an All-State wrestling performer, Shue has volunteered locally by working with aspiring wrestlers in grades K-8, and on behalf of the West Milford Youth Track Club Camp. He also has donated his time measuring throws distances and recording results at area youth track and field meets. "Riding a strong wave of individual performance pops in the postseason, Shue boosted his recruiting stock even further as one of America's premier combo throwers," said Rich Gonzalez, editor of PrepCalTrack. "Given his strong support group and focused work ethic, we're looking at magical possibilities in 2025."

Shue has maintained a 97.63 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.

Shue joins recent Gatorade New Jersey Boys Track & Field Players of the Year Fabian Gonzalez (2022-23, Southern Regional High School), Greg Foster (2021-22, The Lawrenceville School), Shamali Whittle (2020-21, Nottingham High School) and Liam Murphy (2019-20, Allentown 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).