

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

CHICAGO (June 27, 2024) — In its 39th year of honoring the nation’s most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Braden Garrison** of **Dewey High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade Oklahoma Boys Track & Field Player of the Year**. Garrison is the first Gatorade Oklahoma Boys Track & Field Player of the Year to be chosen from Dewey 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 Garrison as Oklahoma’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, 250-pound senior throws specialist won the shot put at the OSSAA Class 4A state meet, launching the apparatus a personal-best 64 feet, 4.75 inches. The effort ranked as the nation’s No. 22 distance among boys prep competitors this spring. He also recorded the state’s furthest throw in the hammer in 2024 with a personal-best effort of 176-1 to win the event at this month’s Great Southwest Classic.

A member of the Business Professionals of America and his school’s student council, Garrison has volunteered locally with the No Kid Hungry initiative, which provides meals to undernourished children. He also has donated his time by assisting in blood-donation drives and as a youth sports coach. “Not content merely being the state leader in the shot put, Braden Garrison’s foray to New Mexico for the Great Southwest Classic after the state meet netted him the state lead in the hammer throw as well for this spring,” said Rich Gonzalez of PrepCalTrack. “His consistency in the ring was impressive and he graduated ranked among the top five performers in state history in both the shot and the hammer.”

Garrison has maintained a 3.70 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete on scholarship at Kennesaw State 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.

Garrison joins recent Gatorade Oklahoma Boys Track & Field Players of the Year Keegan Thomas (2022-23, Stillwater High School), Jayden Rowe (2021-22, Union High School), Tevin Williams (2020-21, Stillwater High School) and Bobby Wood (2019-20, Putnam City 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 or follow us on social media on Facebook at facebook.com/GatoradePOY, Instagram at instagram.com/Gatorade and X(Twitter) at x.com/Gatorade.