

**PARK HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE MONTANA BOYS CROSS COUNTRY PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (February 13, 2025) — In its 40th year of honoring the nation’s most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Finn Schretenthaler** of **Park High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade Montana Boys Cross Country Player of the Year**. Schretenthaler is the first Gatorade Montana Boys Cross Country Player of the Year to be chosen from Park High School.

Gatorade Player of the Year is the top honor in high school sports, celebrating the nation’s best high school athletes for their success on the field, in the classroom and in the community. The award distinguishes Schretenthaler as Montana's best high school boys cross country athlete, and he joins an impressive group of alumni that spans CEOs, coaches and star athletes such as Lukas Verzbicas (2009-10 & 2010-11, Carl Sandburg High School, Illinois), Edward Cheserek (2012-13, St. Benedict's Preparatory School, New Jersey) and Daniel Simmons (2022-23 & 2023-24, American Fork High School, Utah).

The 6-foot-1, 140-pound junior won his second straight Class A state meet this past season in an all-class best time of 15:33.19, breaking the tape 21.43 seconds ahead of his next-closest competitor and leading the Rangers to seventh place as a team. Schretenthaler also finished 45th at the Nike Cross Northwest Regional Championships. He is the school record-holder for 5K as well as in the 1,600 and 3,200-meter run on the outdoor track.

A saxophonist in the Park High School wind ensemble, jazz band, pep band and marching band, Schretenthaler has volunteered locally as a school library assistant and he has donated his time to multiple friends and neighbors with a variety of tasks. “Finn loves to run and run fast,” said Kirk Lentz, head coach of Park High School. “His dedication to his friends and his team is what we should all strive for.”

Schretenthaler has maintained a 3.12 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 across 12 different high school sports – 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.

Schretenthaler joins recent Gatorade Montana Boys Cross Country Players of the Year Nathan Neil (2023-24, Bozeman High School), Weston Brown (2022-23, Bozeman High School), Tanner Klumph (2021-22, Sentinel High School) and Stirling Marshall-Pryde (2020-21, Bozeman 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 \$5.6 million in grants to winners across more than 2,000 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 Instagram at [instagram.com/Gatorade](https://www.instagram.com/Gatorade), Facebook at [facebook.com/GatoradePOY](https://www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY) and X(Twitter) at [x.com/Gatorade](https://www.x.com/Gatorade).