DAVIES HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE NORTH DAKOTA BOYS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (March 20, 2025)— In its 40th year of honoring the nation's most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Mason Klabo** of **Davies High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade North Dakota Boys Basketball Player of the Year**. Klabo is the second Gatorade North Dakota Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Davies 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 court, in the classroom and in the community. The award distinguishes Klabo as North Dakota's best high school boys basketball player and he joins an impressive group of alumni that spans CEOs, coaches and star athletes such as Karl-Anthony Towns (2012-13 & 2013-14, St. Joseph High School, N.J.), Jayson Tatum (2013-14, 2014-15 & 2015-16, Chaminade College Preparatory School, Mo.) and Cooper Flagg (2023-24, Montverde Academy, Fl.).

The 6-foot-2, 180-pound senior point guard had led the Eagles (18-8) to the Division AA state title game this past season, averaging 27.7 points, 7.9 rebounds, 5.9 assists and 2.7 steals. Klabo will graduate with 2,394 career points, good for the AA state record and eighth in North Dakota history for all divisions. The 2024-25 Division AA Senior Athlete of the Year, he is ranked as the nation's No. 240 recruit by PrepHoops and scored 21 points in addition to recording seven rebounds and four assists in his final high school game.

Klabo has volunteered locally on behalf of Feed My Starving Children and GiGi's Playhouse, which carries out a mission to change the way the world views Down syndrome. A member of the Shape Club at his school, he has also donated his time as a coach and personal trainer for youth basketball players. "Mason Klabo can play every position on the floor and he's a point guard who can score at the rim, pull up and drain 3s," said Jeff Ralph, head coach at Wahpeton Senior High School. "He's a game-changer on both ends of the floor."

Klabo has maintained a 3.91 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a written letter of athletic aid to play basketball at Illinois 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 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.

Klabo joins recent Gatorade North Dakota Boys Basketball Players of the Year Tommy Ahneman (2023-24, Sheyenne High School), Darik Dissette (2022-23, Minot High School) and Joe Hurlburt (2021-22 & 2020-21, Enderlin 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 <u>playeroftheyear.gatorade.com</u> or follow us on social media on Instagram at <u>instagram.com/Gatorade</u>. Facebook at facebook.com/GatoradePOY and X(Twitter) at x.com/Gatorade.