## WESTVIEW HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE INDIANA BOYS TRACK & FIELD PLAYER OF THE YEAR

**CHICAGO** (June 25, 2025) — In its 40<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Noah Bontrager** of **Westview High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade Indiana Boys Track & Field Player of the Year**.

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 Bontrager as Indiana's best high school track & field athlete, and he joins an impressive group of alumni that spans CEOs, coaches and star athletes such as Alan Webb (2000-01, South Lakes High School, Va.), Kerron Clement (2002-03, Laporte High School, Texas) and Christian Miller (2023-24, Creekside High School, Fl.).

The 5-foot-9, 125-pound junior distance talent won the 5000-meter run event at New Balance Nationals Outdoor this past season and his time of 14:20.89 set a state record in addition to being No. 8 nationally among prep boys competitors this spring. Bontrager also won in the 1600- and 3200-meter events at the All-State Meet, breaking the tape in the 3200 in 8:51.22, which ranked No. 25 nationally at the time of his selection.

A member of the Westview High School marching band, Bontrager is also a five-year member of the student council. He has volunteered locally with Feed My Starving Children and has donated his time to multiple community service initiatives through his church. "Even the best track athletes rarely experience the type of success Noah Bontrager enjoyed this past season," said Rich Gonzalez, editor for PrepCalTrack.com. "From breaking a state record to staying unbeaten in all his distance events to then winning a national title, it truly does not get any better."

Bontrager has maintained a 3.88 GPA in the classroom. He has made a verbal commitment to compete at the University of Notre Dame beginning in the fall of 2026.

The <u>Gatorade Player of the Year</u> 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.

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 <u>facebook.com/GatoradePOY</u> and X(Twitter) at <u>x.com/Gatorade</u>.

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