MAIZE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE KANSAS BOYS TRACK & FIELD PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 25, 2025) — In its 40th year of honoring the nation's most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Alan Hanna** of **Maize High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade Kansas 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 Hanna as Kansas' 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 6-foot-2, 175-pound senior high-jumper won the Class 6A state championship in the high jump this past season and his leap of 7 feet, 3.5 inches ranked No. 3 nationally among prep boys competitors this spring. The clearance is tied for No. 30 in U.S. prep history. He also won the high jump at the Kansas Relays and finished ninth at the USA Track and Field U20 Championships.

Hanna has volunteered locally on behalf of the Special Olympics. He has also donated his time to the Superintendent Student Advisory Team at Maize High School. "Hanna picked the perfect time for his career breakthrough," said Rich Gonzalez, editor of PrepCalTrack.com, "He did it on the state meet stage and in record-breaking fashion."

Hanna has maintained a 3.23 weighted GPA in the classroom. He has signed a written letter of athletic aid to compete at Kansas State University this fall.

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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