PARKVIEW BAPTIST SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE LOUISIANA 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 **Aiden Monistere** of **Parkview Baptist School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade Louisiana 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 Monistere as Louisiana'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-11, 145-pound senior middle distance and distance talent won the New Balance Nationals Outdoor title in the 2-mile run this past season, clocking a personal-best 8:52.31, which ranked No. 5 nationally among prep boys competitors in 2025. He also PR'd in the mile (4:05.92; No. 36 nationally) and the 3200 (8:49.84; No. 16) this spring. At the Class 3A state meet, he swept the 800, 1600 and 3200 and anchored the winning 4x800 relay quartet, leading the Eagles to second place as a team. He graduated as the state outdoor record-holder in the 1600, mile and 3200.

Monistere has volunteered locally on behalf of the Eagle Academy, and after school program for middle school students at PBS. He has also donated his time at school summer camps for kids. "Aiden Monistere's win at NBNO came against 11 of the top 25 two-milers in the country and is arguably his best performance of a prep career in which he won 18 state titles between track and cross country," said Rich Gonzalez, editor for PrepCalTrack.com. "Winning three individual events and sharing in a relay title at the state meet demonstrated his distance dominance in the Deep South."

Monistere has maintained a B average in the classroom. He has signed a written letter of athletic aid to compete at Iowa 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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