

## HOPKINS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE MINNESOTA 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 **Henry Risser** of **Hopkins High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade Minnesota 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 Risser as Minnesota'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-10, 160-pound senior middle-distance and relay runner took the bronze in the 800 at the New Balance Nationals Outdoor meet this past season. Risser ran a personal-best time of 1:48.31, which ranked No. 8 nationally among prep boys competitors this spring. He was unbeaten in the 400, including a win at the Hamline Elite Meet in a time of 47.19 that ranked No. 78 nationally.

Risser has volunteered locally with the Hopkins Youth Track League and the Hopkins Raspberry run. He has also donated his time to fundraising efforts for the Hopkins High School boys soccer program. "For the second successive year, Henry Risser performed at his absolute best at nationals," said Rich Gonzalez, editor of PrepCalTrack.com. "For a Minnesotan with limited high-end racing opportunities otherwise, that's quite a testament to his ability to focus."

Risser has maintained a 3.94 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a written letter of athletic aid to compete at the University of Wisconsin 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.

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](https://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com) or follow us on social media on Instagram at [instagram.com/Gatorade](https://instagram.com/Gatorade), Facebook at [facebook.com/GatoradePOY](https://facebook.com/GatoradePOY) and X(Twitter) at [x.com/Gatorade](https://x.com/Gatorade).

###