DESERT OASIS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE NEVADA 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 **Kenan Dagge** of **Desert Oasis High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade Nevada 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 Dagge as Nevada'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 6-foot-1, 140-pound senior distance talent set a state record in the 3200-meter run at the Arcadia Invitational this past season and his time of 8:50.10 ranked No. 19 nationally among prep boys competitors this spring. Dagge also was No. 1 in the state in the mile run with a personal-best clocking of 4:10.72 at the O'Dea Relays in Washington. The 2024-25 Gatorade Nevada Boys Cross Country Player of the Year, he swept the 800, 1600 and 3200 at the Class 4A state meet, leading the Diamondbacks to the team title.

A member of the National Honor Society, Dagge has volunteered locally as part of multiple community service initiatives through his church. "Kenan is the kind of generational talent every coach hopes to work with," said Curtis Cowan, head coach of Desert Oasis High School. "He's the athlete who must be reined in rather than motivated. On the track, Kenan is a 'greedy' racer; he really likes to win as opposed to the athlete that hates to lose."

Dagge has maintained a 4.26 weighted GPA in the classroom. He has signed a written letter of athletic aid to compete at Georgetown 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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