ORGAN MOUNTAIN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE NEW MEXICO 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 **Corbin Coombs** of **Organ Mountain High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade New Mexico 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 Coombs as New Mexico'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-2, 155-pound senior middle-distance and distance talent set state records in the 800-meter run and the 3200 at the Class 5A meet this past season, leading the Knights to second place as a team. His 3200 clocking of 8:52.22 ranked No. 23 nationally among prep boys competitors this spring and his 1:50.33 in the 800 ranked tied for No. 37. Coombs was even better as the postseason went on, winning the 3000 at Nike Outdoor Nationals in a personal-best 8:03.58, which ranked No. 2 nationally. His runner-up finish in the mile at the RunningLane Track Championships ranked No. 4. The returning Gatorade State Track & Field Player of the Year, he also owns the state record in the 1600, set in 2024, and his season-best clocking in that event (4:06.84) ranked No. 26 nationally. He was a Foot Locker Cross Country and Nike Outdoor Nationals All-American as a senior.

Coombs has performed extensive humanitarian efforts as part of multiple service expeditions to Uganda and Guatemala, helping to build schools in both countries and a medical clinic in the latter. He has also fundraised to support clean water reforms in those nations. Coombs has volunteered locally assisting with Senior Olympics road races and track events, and has donated his time as a student coach at a youth track and field camp in addition to participating in a Las Cruces city beautification project. He has also attended the LDS Seminary during the academic year. "Coombs peaked at the right time, setting a pair of all-class records at the state meet and ripping off Top 5 national performances in the mile and the 3000 at the RunningLane Track Championships and Nike Outdoor Nationals, respectively," Rich Gonzalez, editor for PrepCalTrack.com "He graduated with three state records overall."

Coombs has maintained an A average in the classroom. He has signed a written letter of athletic aid to compete at Wake Forest, but will complete a two-year Latter Day Saints mission beforehand.

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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