

## WEST FLORENCE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE SOUTH CAROLINA 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 **Kaleb Burroughs** of **West Florence High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade South Carolina 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 Burroughs as South Carolina'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-3, 160-pound senior distance talent and throws specialist earned All-American status in the 800-meter run at the New Balance Nationals Outdoor this past season, and his state-record time of 1:48.80 ranked No. 11 nationally among prep boys competitors this spring. Burroughs broke his own state record of 1:49.64 set at the Class 5A Division 2 state meet where he also won the 1600 and javelin throw, leading the Knights to the team title. Burroughs broke the tape in the mile run at May's RunningLane Championships in 4:05.84, which ranked No. 36 nationally. His personal-best of 3:55.92 in the 1500 at the Blazer Twilight Invitational ranked No. 39 nationally at the time of his selection.

Burroughs has volunteered locally for Paws With a Cause, a program that trains service dogs for people with disabilities. He has also donated his time to the Special Olympics and as a youth track coach. "Kaleb is an incredible athlete and had a super season—one of the best I have ever seen," said Matt Oberly, head coach of Spring Valley High School. "His ability to be an incredible 800/1600 runner and a really good javelin thrower is awesome. His performance led his team to the state championship."

Burroughs has maintained a 5.19 weighted GPA in the classroom. He has signed a written letter of athletic aid to compete at the University of South Carolina 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).

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