## KELLY WALSH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE WYOMING 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 Landon Walker of Kelly Walsh High School is the 2024-25 Gatorade Wyoming 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 Walker as Wyoming'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, 190-pound senior jumper earned All-American honors in the triple jump at Nike Outdoor Nationals this past season and his leap of 49 feet, 2.25 inches ranked No. 19 nationally among prep boys competitors this spring. Walker won the long jump and the triple jump at the Class 4A state meet, setting a state record in the latter (50-8.75; no wind instruments) and cracking the state's Top 5 all-time in the long jump with his leap of 24-1.25.

An All-State football player for Kelly Walsh last fall, Walker has served on the Wyoming High School Athletic Association Student Advisory Council. He has also volunteered locally at a homeless shelter and food bank and for several eldercare facilities. He has also donated his time to multiple community service initiatives as a leader of his church youth group. "Landon is a hard worker and quiet leader," said Eric Robb, head coach of Kelly Walsh High School. "Other athletes saw his work ethic and the results it produced and they were drawn to him. He was a great teammate. Always willing to help the other jumpers and sprinters."

Walker has maintained a 3.68 weighted GPA in the classroom. He has signed a written letter of athletic aid to compete at Brigham Young University following a two-year LDS mission trip that begins this summer.

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 studentathletes, 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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