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**LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE SOUTH DAKOTA BOYS TRACK & FIELD PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 22, 2017) — In its 32<sup>nd</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, today announced Collin Brison of Lincoln High School as its 2016-17 Gatorade South Dakota Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Brison is the first Gatorade South Dakota Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Lincoln High School.

The award, which recognizes not only outstanding athletic excellence, but also high standards of academic achievement and exemplary character demonstrated on and off the track, distinguishes Brison as South Dakota's best high school boys track & field athlete. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year award to be announced in June, Brison joins an elite alumni association of state track & field award-winners, including Lolo Jones (1997-98, Roosevelt High School, Iowa), Allyson Felix (2002-03, Los Angeles Baptist High School, Calif.), Robert Griffin III (2006-07, Copperas Cove High School, Texas), Grant Fisher (2013-14 & 2014-15, Grand Blanc High School, Mich.) and Candace Hill (2014-15, Rockdale County High School, Ga.).

The 6-foot-3, 190-pound junior led the Patriots to a second straight Class AA team state title this past season. Brison won the 100- and 200-meter dash, and he served as the anchor for Lincoln's winning 4x100-meter and 4x-200-meter relay quartets. Brison clocked the fastest times across all classifications in both the 100 and 200 at the state meet.

An All-State football player in the fall, Brison participated in a service-mission trip to Mexico with his church youth group. "Winning four all-class gold medals is an accomplishment rarely achieved," said Jim Jarovski, head coach of Lincoln High. "He was the MVP at the state meet."

Brison has maintained a 3.17 GPA in the classroom. He will begin his senior year of high school this fall.

The [Gatorade Player of the Year](#) program annually recognizes one winner in the District of Columbia and each of the 50 states that sanction high school 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 work with top sport-specific experts and a media advisory board of accomplished, veteran prep sports journalists to determine the state winners in each sport.

Brison joins recent Gatorade South Dakota Boys Track & Field Athletes of the Year Mason Hericks (2015-16, Watertown High School), Brennan Schmidt (2014-15, Freeman High School), Jack Lembcke (2013-14, Roosevelt High School), Addison DeHaven (2012-13, Brookings High School), Tyler Schultz (2011-12, Custer High School), Tony Smoragiewicz (2010-11, Rapid City Central High School), Trevor Gebhart (2009-10, Washington High School), Alex Muntefering (2008-09, Parkston High School), Matt Tetzlaff (2007-08, T.F. Riggs High School), and Quincy Christie (2006-07, Pierre Riggs High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a Gatorade Player of the Year, Collin will be able to select a national or local youth sports organization to receive a grant as part of the Gatorade Play It Forward program. Every Gatorade Player of the Year state winner receives a \$1,000 grant to donate and will have the opportunity to enter for an additional \$10,000 spotlight grant by writing a brief essay explaining why their selected organization deserves additional support. 12 spotlight grants - one for each sport - will be announced throughout the year.

To keep up to date on the latest happenings, become a fan of Gatorade Player of the Year on Facebook and follow us on Twitter. For more on the Gatorade Player of the Year program, including nomination information, a complete list of past winners and the announcement of the Gatorade National Player of the Year, visit [www.gatorade.com/poy](http://www.gatorade.com/poy).

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