STAR VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE WYOMING BOYS TRACK & FIELD PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 29, 2020) — In its 35th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company today announced Peter Visser of Star Valley High School as its 2019-20 Gatorade Wyoming Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Visser is the third Gatorade Wyoming Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Star Valley 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 field, distinguishes Visser as Wyoming'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 July, Visser joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, 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 state's 2019-20 Gatorade Boys Cross Country Runner of the Year, the 6-foot-1, 140-pound junior took first place in all four events he entered at the 2020 Indoor State Meet. Visser broke the tape in the 800-meter run, the 1,600 and the 3,200 before running the opening leg on the Braves' victorious 4x800-meter relay quartet. A seven-time state champion, he participated in the 2,000-meter steeplechase at the 2019 New Balance Nationals Outdoor and his time of 6:03.86 ranked as the nation's No. 10 mark among prep competitors last season.

Visser works at his family bicycle store. He has volunteered locally on behalf of community beautification projects and he has donated his time to multiple community service initiatives through his church youth group. "Peter Visser is a very talented runner," said Bruce Mowry, head coach of Cheyenne Central High School. "He has a great work ethic to go with his talent. He runs very strategically and intelligently."

Visser has maintained a 3.98 GPA in the classroom. He will begin his senior year of high school 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 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.

Visser joins recent Gatorade Wyoming Boys Track & Field Athletes of the Year Wyatt Moore (2018-19, Star Valley High School), Brodie Roden (2017-18, Riverton High School), McCade Johnson (2016-17, Laramie High School), Brody Smith (2015-16, Cody High School), Chase Andersen (2014-15, Natrona County High School), and Joey Czellecz (2013-14 & 2012-13, Kelly Walsh High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

Since the program's inception in 1985, Gatorade Player of the Year award recipients have won hundreds of professional and college championships, and many have also turned into pillars in their communities, becoming coaches, business owners and educators.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit www.Gatorade.com/POY, on Facebook at www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY or follow us on Twitter at www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY or follow us on Twitter at www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY or follow us on Twitter at

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