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**CENTURY HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE NORTH DAKOTA BOYS TRACK & FIELD ATHLETE OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 21, 2012) — In its 27th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPNHS, today announced Drew Wiseman of Century High School as its 2011-12 Gatorade North Dakota Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Wiseman is the first Gatorade North Dakota Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Century 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 Wiseman as North 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, Wiseman joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Ryan Hall (1999-01, Big Bear HS, Calif.), Meb Keflezighi (1993-94, San Diego HS, Calif.), Derek Jeter (1991-92, Kalamazoo HS, Mich.), Candace Parker (2001-02, Naperville Central HS, Ill.), Mark Sanchez (2004-05, Mission Viejo HS, Calif.) and Lolo Jones (1997-98, Roosevelt HS, Ia.).

The 6-foot-2 junior sprinter and hurdler won individual state titles in the 200-meter dash with a time of 21.76 seconds, the 400-meter dash in 48.82, the 300-meter hurdles in 37.06 this spring, leading the Patriots to a second-place finish as a team at the Class A state meet. Wiseman also anchored the 4x400-meter relay quartet to a state title. A two-time First Team All-State honoree, his winning 300 hurdles time at the state meet ranked as the nation's No. 14 clocking among prep competitors in 2012 at the time of his selection.

Wiseman has maintained a 4.0 GPA and is ranked first in a class of 375 students. He has volunteered locally on behalf of the Adopt-A-Highway Litter Removal Service of America, Inc. and as a youth track and field coach.

"Drew Wiseman is an extremely gifted athlete in track and field," said Aaron Klingbeil, head coach at Minot High. "His performance at key meets throughout the season absolutely impeccable."

Wiseman 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 ESPNHS and the Gatorade high school sports leadership team, 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.

Wiseman joins recent Gatorade North Dakota Boys Track & Field Athletes of the Year Brock Larson (2010-11, Fargo South High School), Brandon Barnes (2009-10, Bismarck), Ryan Todhunter (2008-09, Red River), and Jason Duchsherer (2007-08, Bismarck) among the state's list of former award winners.

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 playeroftheyear.gatorade.com.

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