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BROOKINGS HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE SOUTH DAKOTA BOYS TRACK & FIELD ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 20, 2013) — In its 28th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Addison DeHaven of Brookings High School as its 2012-13 Gatorade South Dakota Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. DeHaven is the first Gatorade South Dakota Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Brookings 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 DeHaven 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, DeHaven 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 5-foot-11, 140-pound junior distance runner won four individual state championships this spring and led the Bobcats to a seventh-place finish as a team at the Class AA state meet. DeHaven won the 1600-meter run with a time of 4:16.91 and the 3200-meter run in a state record time of 9:00.19. He also anchored the 4x800-meter relay quartet that broke the tape in 7:57.70 and the winning 1600 sprint medley squad in 3:34.05. Also the 2012-13 Gatorade South Dakota Boys Cross Country Runner of the Year, he won the 2-mile run at the Midwest Distance Festival this month with a time of 9:01.16, which is ranked as the nation's No. 8 mark by a prep competitor in 2013 at the time of his selection.

DeHaven has maintained a 3.43 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally as a youth cross country coach as well as on behalf of the Special Olympics and multiple area charity road races.

"Addison DeHaven is a tremendous asset to South Dakota distance running," said Jesse Coy, head coach at Rapid City Stevens High. "His performances the last couple of years are among the best ever and will inspire athletes for years to come."

DeHaven 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 high school sports leadership team in partnership with USA TODAY High School Sports, 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.

DeHaven joins recent Gatorade South Dakota Boys Track & Field Athletes of the Year Tyler Schultz (2011-12, Custer High School), Tony Smoragiewicz (2010-11, Rapid City Central High School), Trevor Gebhart (2009-10, Washington), Alex Muntefering (2008-09, Parkston), and Matt Tetzlaff (2007-08 & 2006-07, T.F. Riggs) 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 www.gatorade.com/poy.