

Contact: Kelsey Rhoney (312-729-3685)

**WAUSAU WEST HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE WISCONSIN GIRLS TRACK & FIELD PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 21, 2018) — In its 33rd year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, today announced Brooke Jaworski of Wausau West High School as its 2017-18 Gatorade Wisconsin Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Jaworski is the first Gatorade Wisconsin Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Wausau West 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 Jaworski as Wisconsin's best high school girls track & field athlete. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year award to be announced in June, Jaworski 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 5-foot-11 junior set a state record in the 400-meter hurdles at the USATF Junior Outdoor Championships, crossing the line in second, behind a collegiate competitor, with a time of 57.63 seconds. Jaworski's clocking ranked No. 1 in the nation among prep competitors at the time of her selection and qualified her for the World Junior Championships to be held in Finland in July. Jaworski won the 400-meter run and the 300-meter hurdles at the Division 1 state meet this past season, leading the Warriors to a third-place finish as a team. Her time of 41.40 seconds in the 300 hurdles set a state record and ranked No. 5 in the nation, while her winning 400 time of 53.75 ranked No. 16 in the nation.

The president of the Wausau West High National Honor Society, Jaworski has volunteered locally as part of a fundraising campaign to benefit breast cancer research. She has also donated her time as a youth running coach. "Brooke is one of the most exciting track athletes to watch," said Nicole Orlando, head coach of Mosinee High. "I watched her set the fastest time in the 300 hurdles in Wisconsin back in May and that was the first time she ever ran the race. She broke records as a freshman and continues to break her own records as she improves."

Jaworski has maintained a 3.91 GPA in the classroom. She will begin her 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.

Jaworski joins recent Gatorade Wisconsin Girls Track & Field Athletes of the Year Josie Schaefer (2016-17, Baraboo High School), Mikaela Grant (2015-16, Jefferson High School), Cami Davre (2014-15, Whitefish Bay High School), Kennedy Blahnik (2013-14, 2012-13 & 2011-12, Algoma High School), Dezerea Bryant (2010-11 & 2009-10, Bradley Tech.), Brea Tinney (2008-09, Osceola), Megan Rennhack (2007-08, Dodgegeland), and Hannah Gronning (2006-07, Shell Lake) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a Gatorade Player of the Year, Jaworski 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.

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