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**WILMINGTON FRIENDS SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE DELAWARE BOYS TRACK & FIELD PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 21, 2018) — In its 33<sup>rd</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, today announced Connor Nisbet of Wilmington Friends School as its 2017-18 Gatorade Delaware Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Nisbet is the first Gatorade Delaware Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Wilmington Friends 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 Nisbet as Delaware'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, Nisbet 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-9, 140-pound junior won the 1600-meter run with a time of 4:21.87 and the 3200-meter run in 9:42.32 at the Division 2 state meet this past season, also finishing second in the 800. The state's reigning Gatorade Boys Cross Country Runner of the Year, Nisbet also won the 3200 at the Meet of Champions (9:42.30) and captured second nationally in the two-mile at June's New Balance Nationals Outdoor, clocking a 9:04.73.

Also a talented musician, Nisbet is a member of his school's student leadership committee. "There's not really a secret to Connor's success, he just puts in the time and the effort and the miles," said Wilmington Friends coach Nora Reynolds. "He's got a really incredible competitive streak in him and he has great faith that he can be competitive in any race, even at the national level."

Nisbet has maintained a 4.01 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.

Nisbet joins recent Gatorade Delaware Boys Track & Field Athletes of the Year Edwin Rosembert (2016-17, Howard High School of Technology), Kevin Murray (2015-16, Charter School of Wilmington), Kieran Tuntivate (2014-15, Charter School of Wilmington), Zach Schmelz (2013-14, St. Mark's High School), Lamar Bruton (2012-13, Howard High School of Technology), Sam Parsons (2011-12, The Tatnall School), Tyler Tate (2010-11, The Tatnall School), Ryan Lee (2009-10, Archmere Academy), Bobby Kennedy Jr. (2008-09, Caravel Academy), Isaiah Brisco (2007-08, Cape Henlopen), and Brian Sklodowski (2006-07, Tatnall) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a Gatorade Player of the Year, Nisbet 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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