BISHOP GUERTIN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE NEW HAMPSHIRE GIRLS TRACK & FIELD PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 25, 2020) — In its 35th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company today announced Caroline Fischer of Bishop Guertin High School as its 2019-20 Gatorade New Hampshire Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Fischer is the first Gatorade New Hampshire Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Bishop Guertin 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 Fischer as New Hampshire'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, Fischer 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 5-foot-8 senior broke the tape in the two-mile run at the Ocean Breeze Miles Mania meet in March, clocking a time of 10:51.6, which ranked as the nation's No. 25 prep performance indoors in 2020. The state's Gatorade Girls Cross Country Runner of the Year last fall, Fischer swept the 800, 1600 and 3200 at the Division I state meet in the spring of 2019. A 16-time All-State honoree between track and cross country and a four-time All-New England selection, she also took 15th in the mile at the New Balance Nationals Outdoor.

Fischer serves on the leadership team of Bishop Guertin's Campus Ministry, helping to organize high school masses and performing community outreach. Also a eucharistic minister at the high school and at Sainte Marie Roman Catholic Church, she has donated her time as a preschool religious education volunteer in the Seeds/Promises program in addition to volunteering on behalf of local road races. "Caroline Fischer is one of the finest distance runners in New Hampshire, New England and the nation," said Joe Scascitelli, coach at Exeter High School. "She battled Lyme disease during her last three years of high school, but she still managed to perform at a high level. She may very well be the most courageous and toughest kid that I have ever seen at the high school level."

Fischer has maintained a 3.82 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to run on scholarship at Providence College 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.

Fischer joins recent Gatorade New Hampshire Girls Track & Field Athletes of the Year Grace Devanny (2018-19, Concord High School), Jacqueline Gaughan (2017-18, Exeter High School), Kristie Schoffield (2016-17, Merrimack Valley High School), Maegan Doody (2015-16, Oyster River High School), and Hannah Parker (2014-15 & 2013-14, Coe-Brown Northwood Academy) 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.twitter.com/POY, on Facebook at www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY or follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/POY, on Facebook at www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY or follow us on Twitter at