MIDDLETOWN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE DELAWARE BOYS TRACK & FIELD PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 29, 2020) — In its 35th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company today announced Brahmir Vick of Middletown High School as its 2019-20 Gatorade Delaware Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Vick is the first Gatorade Delaware Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Middletown 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 Vick 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 July, Vick 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-9, 156-pound senior won the 55-meter hurdles in 7.33 seconds at the indoor state meet this past winter. Also the state's returning Gatorade Boys Track and Field Athlete of the Year, Vick clocked a season-best time of 7.28 in the preliminary round, which matched the state record and ranked as the nation's No. 4 performance among prep competitors in the 2020 indoor campaign. The state record-holder in the 110 hurdles, he won that event at the 2019 outdoor Meet of Champions and ran a leg on the title-winning 4x100 relay squad. Vick won the 110 hurdles at the 2019 International Youth Track and Field Championships last July.

A member of his school's student leadership committee, Vick has volunteered locally as a mentor for younger pupils. "Brahmir is a very focused and determined individual, both on the track and in the classroom," said Middletown coach Mary Kay Waltemire. "He sets personal and team goals high, and then works hard to reach those goals."

Vick has maintained a 3.52 GPA in the classroom. He will attend the United States Naval Academy, where he will compete in track and field.

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.

Two-time winner Vick joins recent Gatorade Delaware Boys Track & Field Athletes of the Year Connor Nisbet (2017-18, Wilmington Friends School), 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), and Zach Schmelz (2013-14, St. Mark's High School) 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