COE-BROWN NORTHWOOD ACADEMY STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE NEW HAMPSHIRE GIRLS TRACK & FIELD PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (July 2, 2021) — In its 36th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced Addison Cox of Coe-Brown Northwood Academy as its 2020-21 Gatorade New Hampshire Girls Track & Field Player of the Year. Cox is the second Gatorade New Hampshire Girls Track & Field Player of the Year to be chosen from Coe-Brown Northwood Academy.

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 Cox as New Hampshire's best high school girls track & field athlete. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Girls Track & Field Player of the Year award to be announced in July, Cox 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-4 senior won the 1600-meter run with a time of 5:11.52 and broke the tape in the 3200 with a time of 11:11.61 at the Division 2 state meet this past season, leading the Black Bears to the state championship as a team. The state's reigning Gatorade Player of the Year in girls cross country, Cox took second in the 800 and won the 3200 at the state Meet of Champions with a time of 10:57.53.

President of her school's Student-Athlete Leadership Team (SALT), Cox has volunteered as a peer consultant at the Coe-Brown Writing Center and on behalf of the New Hampshire Thunder Youth Track program. She is also a member of both the National Honor Society and Healthcare Occupation Students of America (HOSA), a student-leadership organization that promotes career opportunities in the healthcare industry and strives to enhance the delivery of quality health care to all people. "Addison is everything you could ask for in a high school athlete," said Nate Leveille, coach at Exeter High. "She's a tremendous athlete and person. Her long list of accomplishments should also include her perseverance of overcoming Lyme disease and still performing at the highest level her senior year."

Cox has maintained an A average in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to run on scholarship at the University of New Hampshire 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 works with top sport-specific experts and a media advisory board of accomplished, veteran prep sports journalists to determine the state winners in each sport.

Cox joins recent Gatorade New Hampshire Girls Track & Field Players of the Year Caroline Fischer (2019-20, Bishop Guertin High School), Grace Devanny (2018-19, Concord High School), Jacqueline Gaughan (2017-18, Exeter High School), and Kristie Schoffield (2016-17, Merrimack Valley High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Through Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Cox has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national youth sports organization of their choosing. Cox is also eligible to submit a 30-second video explaining why the organization they chose is deserving of one of twelve \$10,000 spotlight grants, which will be announced throughout the year. To date, Gatorade Player of the Year winners' grants have totaled more than \$2.7 million across 1,117 organizations.

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 playeroftheyear.gatorade.com, on Facebook at facebook.com/GatoradePOY or follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/Gatorade.