CAMPBELL COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE WYOMING 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 Lauryn Love of Campbell County High School as its 2020-21 Gatorade Wyoming Girls Track & Field Player of the Year. Love is the fourth Gatorade Wyoming Girls Track & Field Player of the Year to be chosen from Campbell County 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 Love as Wyoming'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, Love 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-11 senior swept the shot put and discus at the Class 4A state meet this past season, leading the Camels to a second-place finish as a team. At the time of her selection, Love's personal-best put of the shot of 47 feet, 6.25 inches was second in state history and ranked No. 22 nationally among 2021 prep competitors in her event while her personal-best discus throw of 144-3 ranked No. 77. She was one of the National Strength and Conditioning Association's 16 Multi-Sport Athletes of the Year in 2021.

The treasurer of the Campbell County High National Honor Society, Love has volunteered locally with the Campbell County Parade of Homes during the Christmas season and at the Campbell County Chamber of Commerce's annual crawfish boil. "Lauryn is a disciplined athlete who continually got better throughout the season," said Jenifer Lijewski, head coach of Kelly Walsh High. "Her drive to be the best was evident in her progression throughout the year. I have been coaching for the past 20 years and it is rare to see an athlete that is so strong in two events."

Love has maintained a 4.09 GPA in the classroom and graduated as her school's valedictorian. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete on an athletic scholarship at the University of Arizona 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 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.

Love joins recent Gatorade Wyoming Girls Track & Field Players of the Year Sydney Thorvaldson (2019-20 & 2018-19, Rawlins High School), Aubrey Frentheway (2017-18, Cheyenne Central High School), and Anna Gibson (2016-17, Jackson Hole High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Through Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Love has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national youth sports organization of their choosing. Love 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.