ARCHBISHOP CARROLL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BOYS TRACK & FIELD PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 29, 2022) — In its 37th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Nyckoles Harbor** of **Archbishop Carroll High School** is the **2021-22 Gatorade District of Columbia Boys Track & Field Player of the Year**. Harbor is the third Gatorade District of Columbia Boys Track & Field Player of the Year to be chosen from Archbishop Carroll 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 Harbor as District of Columbia's best high school boys track & field athlete. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Boys Track & Field Player of the Year award to be announced in July, Harbor 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 (2014-15 & 2013-14, Grand Blanc High School, Mich.) and Candace Hill (2014-15, Rockdale County High School, Ga.).

The District's returning Gatorade Player of the Year in track and field and the 2021-22 D.C. Gatorade Football Player of the Year, the 6-foot-6, 230-pound junior earned All-American honors by taking bronze in the 200-meter dash at the New Balance Nationals Outdoor this past season. Harbor swept the 100- and 200-meter races at the Washington Catholic Athletic Conference Championships. He also set a D.C. record at the Mt. SAC Relays in the 100 with a time of 10.28 seconds, which ranked No. 8 nationally among prep competitors in 2022 at the time of his selection. His season-best 200 time of 20.95 ranked No. 23 in the country.

Harbor has volunteered locally on behalf of Generosity Global to improve the lives of people in need in addition to participating in community beautification projects. He has also donated his time to Archbishop Carroll's annual food drive. "Nyck is a fierce competitor," said Desmond Dunham, head coach of St. John's College High. "There is no doubt that he has the added pressure of having the big 'X' on his back since he hit national prominence at such a young age. Having this extra layer of stress, he has still managed to astound spectators and remain a fan-favorite to watch."

Harbor has maintained a 3.73 GPA in the classroom. He will begin his senior year of high school 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 leverages experts including coaches, scouts, media and others as sources to help evaluate and determine the state winners in each sport.

Two-time winner Harbor joins recent Gatorade District of Columbia Boys Track & Field Players of the Year Luke Tewalt (2019-20, Washington Latin Public Charter School), Kendel Hammock (2018-19, Archbishop Carroll High School), and Isaac Frumkin (2017-18, Woodrow Wilson High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Gatorade has a long-standing history of serving athlete communities and understands how sports instill valuable lifelong skills on and off the field. Through Gatorade's "Play it Forward" platform, Harbor has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national organization of their choosing that helps young athletes realize the benefits of playing sports. Harbor is also eligible to submit a short 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 \$3.5 million across more than 1,300 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 studentathletes, visit playeroftheyear.gatorade.com or follow us on social media on Facebook at facebook.com/GatoradePOY, Instagram at instagram.com/Gatorade and Twitter at twitter.com/Gatorade.