## JAMESTOWN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE NORTH DAKOTA GIRLS TRACK & FIELD PLAYER OF THE YEAR

**CHICAGO** (June 30, 2022) — In its 37<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Anthonett Nabwe** of **Jamestown High School** is the **2021-22 Gatorade North Dakota Girls Track & Field Player of the Year**. Nabwe is the first Gatorade North Dakota Girls Track & Field Player of the Year to be chosen from Jamestown 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 Nabwe as North Dakota'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, Nabwe 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 state's returning Gatorade Girls Track & Field Player of the Year, the 5-foot-9 senior set a state record in the shot put at the Class A state meet this past season, leading the Blue Jays to a third-place finish as a team. Nabwe launched the shot put 49 feet, 10 inches, a mark that ranked No. 5 nationally among prep competitors in 2022 at the time of her selection. She also won the discus and javelin throws at the state meet with marks that both ranked in the Top 30 nationally, and she finished third in the 100-meter dash.

A native of Liberia, Nabwe came to Jamestown before her freshman year of high school. A talented singer, she has performed at multiple nursing homes, and she has volunteered locally as a youth basketball and volleyball coach. "Anthonett is a very good athlete and competitor," said Tom Kolsrud, head coach of Bismarck High School. "She has good speed combined with strength and quickness that also made her a very, very good thrower."

Nabwe has maintained a 3.81 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete on an athletic scholarship at the University of Minnesota 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 Nabwe joins recent Gatorade North Dakota Girls Track & Field Players of the Year Shelby Frank (2019-20, 2018-19, & 2017-18, Red River 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, Nabwe 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. Nabwe 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 student-athletes, 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.