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## BRYAN STATION HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE KENTUCKY BOYS TRACK & FIELD PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 22, 2017) — In its 32<sup>nd</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, today announced Isaiah McCall of Bryan Station High School as its 2016-17 Gatorade Kentucky Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. McCall is the first Gatorade Kentucky Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Bryan Station 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 track, distinguishes McCall as Kentucky'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 June, McCall joins an elite alumni association of state track & field award-winners, 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 6-foot, 185-pound senior eclipsed a 42-year-old state record in the 110-meter hurdles at the Class AAA state meet this past season, leading the Defenders to a third-place finish as a team. McCall broke the tape in the 110 hurdles in 13.76 seconds, which ranked as the nation's No. 18 time among prep competitors this spring at the time of his selection. He also won the 300 hurdles in 38.85 seconds—his third straight state title in that event—while his season-best of 37.12 in the 300 hurdles is also a state record and ranked No. 27 in the nation.

McCall has volunteered locally as a youth track coach and he has donated his time as part of multiple community-service initiatives through his church. "Hurdlers usually have to pay dues and spend time at their craft, and Isaiah has been doing this for a while, every year improving on his times," said Don Goodwin, head coach of Ballard High. "He was not only the best hurdler we've had around here in a while, he was also a great sprinter as well."

McCall has maintained a weighted 3.71 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a national letter of intent to compete on an athletic scholarship at the University of Cincinnati beginning 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 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.

McCall joins recent Gatorade Kentucky Boys Track & Field Athletes of the Year William Allen (2015-16, Paul Dunbar High School), Jaron Brooks (2014-15, Henry Clay High School), Landon Young (2013-14, Lafayette High School), Jacob Thomson (2012-13, Holy Cross High School), Ronnie Baker (2011-12 & (2010-11, Ballard High School), Brandon Bagley (2009-10, John Hardin High School), Cameron Frazier (2008-09, Daviess County High School), Justin Green (2007-08, Louisville Male High School), and Michael Eaton (2006-07, Greenwood High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a Gatorade Player of the Year, Isaiah will be able to select a national or local youth sports organization to receive a grant as part of the Gatorade Play It Forward program. Every Gatorade Player of the Year state winner receives a \$1,000 grant to donate and will have the opportunity to enter for an additional \$10,000 spotlight grant by writing a brief essay explaining why their selected organization deserves additional support. 12 spotlight grants – one for each sport – will be announced throughout the year.

To keep up to date on the latest happenings, become a fan of Gatorade Player of the Year on Facebook and follow us on Twitter. For more on the Gatorade Player of the Year program, including nomination information, a complete list of past winners and the announcement of the Gatorade National Player of the Year, visit <a href="www.gatorade.com/poy">www.gatorade.com/poy</a>.