

## **BULLIS SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE MARYLAND BOYS TRACK & FIELD PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

**CHICAGO** (June 24, 2019) — In its 34<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company today announced **Andre Turay of Bullis School** as its **2018-19 Gatorade Maryland Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year**. Turay is the first Gatorade Maryland Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Bullis 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 Turay as Maryland'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, Turay 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-1, 175-pound senior led two national championship relays at the New Balance Nationals Outdoor this past season. Turay ran legs on the winning Swedish relay and for the 4x400 relay quartet that clocked a 3:09.86, which ranked as the nation's No. 1 performance among prep competitors in 2019 at the time of his selection. He also ran with the 4x200 relay foursome that finished second nationally. Turay won the 110-meter high hurdles and the 300-meter intermediate hurdles at the Interstate Athletic Conference championships, and his personal-best time of 13.58 in the 110 hurdles ranked sixth in the country this spring.

Turay has volunteered locally on behalf of Habitat for Humanity. "Andre embraces new challenges both inside and outside of his primary event," said Bullis coach Joe Lee. "He's a team captain with an engaging personality. His belief in himself and his teammates makes him an invaluable leader."

Turay has maintained a B average in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete in track and field on scholarship at Texas A&M 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. From the 12 national winners, one male and one female athlete are each named Gatorade High School Athlete of the Year. In all, 607 athletes are honored each year.

Turay joins recent Gatorade Maryland Boys Track & Field Athletes of the Year Kieran McDermott (2017-18, Bel Air High School), Kollin Smith (2016-17, Frederick Douglass High School), Shyheim Wright (2015-16, Northwest High School), Maxwell Willis (2014-15, Bowie High School) and Robert Carter (2013-14, Long Reach High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a part of Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Turay also has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national youth sports organization of his choosing. He is also eligible to submit an essay to win one of twelve \$10,000 spotlight grants for the organization of choice, which will be announced throughout the year.

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 [www.Gatorade.com/POY](http://www.Gatorade.com/POY), on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY](https://www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY) or follow us on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/Gatorade](https://www.twitter.com/Gatorade).

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