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**COLLETON COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE SOUTH CAROLINA GIRLS TRACK & FIELD ATHLETE OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 20, 2012) — In its 27<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPNHS, today announced Jalacy Green of Colleton County High School as its 2011-12 Gatorade South Carolina Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Green is the first Gatorade South Carolina Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Colleton 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 track, distinguishes Green as South Carolina's best high school girls track & field athlete. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year award to be announced in June, Green joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Allyson Felix (2001-02, Los Angeles Baptist, Calif.), Derek Jeter (1991-92, Kalamazoo HS, Mich.), Candace Parker (2001-02, Naperville Central HS, Ill.), Abby Wambach (1997-98, Our Lady of Mercy, N.Y.), Mark Sanchez (2004-05, Mission Viejo HS, Calif.), Lolo Jones (1997-98, Roosevelt HS, Ia.) and Bianca Knight (2006-07, Ridgeland HS, Miss.).

The 5-10 senior won the shot put and discus at the Class 4A state meet this spring, leading the Cougars to ninth place as a team. The 2012 High School Sports Report 4A Female Athlete of the Year, Green won the shot put with a throw of 42 feet, 9 inches and the discus with a toss of 128-4. At the 4A state meet qualifiers, Green launched the shot put 45-5, which ranked No. 43 in the nation among prep competitors in 2012 at the time of her selection.

Green has maintained a 3.46 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally as a certified nursing assistant.

"Jalacy Green is one of the best high school throwers ever in South Carolina," said Glover Smiley, head coach of rival Spartanburg High. "Jalacy is a very hard-working, determined and dedicated track student-athlete. Her record in track & field attests to her discipline, self-motivation and dedication to her sport."

Green has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete in track and field on scholarship at Coastal Carolina University 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 ESPNHS and the Gatorade high school sports leadership team, 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.

Green joins recent Gatorade South Carolina Girls Track & Field Athletes of the Year LeAnna Morrison (2010-11, Berkeley High School), and Briana Nelson (2007-08, 2008-09 & 2009-10, J.L. Mann Academy) among the state's list of former award winners.

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 [playeroftheyear.gatorade.com](http://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com).

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