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**MANSFIELD HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE MASSACHUSETTS BOYS TRACK & FIELD ATHLETE OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 21, 2012) — In its 27th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPNHS, today announced Josh Lampron of Mansfield High School as its 2011-12 Gatorade Massachusetts Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Lampron is the first Gatorade Massachusetts Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Mansfield 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 Lampron as Massachusetts' 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, Lampron joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Ryan Hall (1999-01, Big Bear HS, Calif.), Meb Keflezighi (1993-94, San Diego HS, Calif.), Derek Jeter (1991-92, Kalamazoo HS, Mich.), Candace Parker (2001-02, Naperville Central HS, Ill.), Mark Sanchez (2004-05, Mission Viejo HS, Calif.) and Lolo Jones (1997-98, Roosevelt HS, Ia.).

The state's returning Gatorade Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year, Lampron won the 800-meter run with a meet-record time of 1:51.99 and the mile in 4:07.88 at the All-State Meet this spring, leading the Hornets to the state championship as a team. The 5-foot-10, 150-pound senior middle-distance and distance runner also swept the 800 (meet-record 1:52.03) and mile (meet-record 4:09.59) at the EMass Division 2 championships. Lampron captured third place at this month's adidas Grand Prix Dream Mile in 4:02.98. He also won the mile at the 2011 New Balance Outdoor Nationals and placed third in the 1,500-meter run at the 2011 USA Track & Field Junior Outdoor Championships as a junior.

Lampron has maintained a 3.95 GPA in the classroom. A member of the National Honor Society and Spanish National Honor Society as well as his school's marching and concert band, he has donated his time as a peer tutor and volunteered more than 100 hundred hours of community service on behalf the Boy Scouts of America as an Eagle Scout.

"I have had the distinct privilege to coach Josh for the past four years," said Mansfield Head Coach Julie Collins. "He has been an outstanding team member. Josh was elected captain of our cross country team, winter track, and spring track and field teams by his fellow teammates. He is a team player, always leading by example. Josh encourages the younger athletes on our team and is willing to do whatever the coaches ask of him at practice and at meets. I think very highly of Josh and will miss him next year as he graduates to a bright future."

Lampron has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete on an athletic scholarship at Villanova University 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.

Two-time winner Lampron joins recent Gatorade Massachusetts Boys Track & Field Athletes of the Year Sam Bombaugh (2009-10, Falmouth), Mark Vetere (2008-09, Andover), and Omar Aden (2007-08, Charlestown) 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.

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