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EAGLE HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE IDAHO GIRLS TRACK & FIELD ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 19, 2013) — In its 28th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Allison Jeffries of Eagle High School as its 2012-13 Gatorade Idaho Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Jeffries is the third Gatorade Idaho Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Eagle 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 Jeffries as Idaho'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, Jeffries 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-foot-8 senior hurdler and pole-vaulter won the 100-meter hurdles with a time of 14.12 seconds and the pole vault with a clearance of 12 feet, leading the Mustangs to the Class 5A state championship as a team. Jeffries also ran the opening leg for the 4x100-meter relay quartet which broke the tape in 48.14. A three-time First Team All-State selection, Jeffries's pole vault of 13 feet at the Class 5A district championships is a state record and is ranked as the nation's No. 14 mark by a prep competitor at the time of her selection.

Jeffries has maintained a 3.24 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally on behalf of the Eagle Food Bank, the Booth Memorial center and as a youth track and field coach.

"Allison Jeffries had an amazing year," said Rob Hindberg, head coach at Timberline High. "She always has a smile on her face until the gun goes off, then she becomes as fierce a competitor the state of Idaho has seen."

Jeffries has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete in track and field on an athletic scholarship at Boise State University 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 high school sports leadership team in partnership with <u>USA TODAY High School Sports</u>, 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.

Jeffries joins recent Gatorade Idaho Girls Track & Field Athletes of the Year Brittany Owens (2011-12 & 2010-11Borah High School), Allee Cooper (2009-10, Eagle), Liz Brandon (2008-09, Eagle), and Nicole Nielsen (2007-08 & 2006-2007, Borah) 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 <u>www.gatorade.com/poy</u>.