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## RAVENSCROFT SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE NORTH CAROLINA GIRLS TRACK & FIELD ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 19, 2013) — In its 28<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Wesley Frazier of Ravenscroft School as its 2012-13 Gatorade North Carolina Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Frazier remains the first Gatorade North Carolina Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Ravenscroft 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 Frazier as North 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, Frazier 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-3 senior won the New Balance Outdoor National Championships this spring in the mile run, the two-mile and the 5,000 meters, giving her eight national titles in her prep career. The state's returning Gatorade Girls Track and Field Athlete of the Year, Frazier won the mile with a time of 4:39.66, took the two-mile in 10:07.25, and captured the 5,000 in a meet-record 15:55.94. She also won the 800, the 1600 and the 3200 at the North Carolina Independent Schools Athletic Association championships, and finished first at the adidas Dream Mile. Frazier's season-best times in the mile (4:39.17) and the 3200 (9:57.70) both ranked as the nation's No. 1 performances among prep competitors in 2013 at the time of her selection.

Frazier has maintained a weighted 3.78 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally on behalf of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

"Wesley's work ethic is surpassed only by her will to compete," said Ravenscroft coach Shon Hardy. "She has never backed down from a challenge and she has been a great teammate too. It's been an honor and privilege to witness such greatness."

Frazier has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete in track and field on scholarship at Duke 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.

Frazier joins Gatorade North Carolina Girls Track & Field Athletes of the Year Kendra Harrison (2010-11, Clayton High School), Sanura Eley O'Reilly (2009-10, Jack Britt), Aslynn Halvorson (2008-09, Butler), Jacinda Evans (2007-08, Southern), and Gabby Mayo (2006-2007, Southeast Raleigh Magnet) 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>.