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**WEST FARGO HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE NORTH DAKOTA 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 Amanda Levin of West Fargo High School as its 2012-13 Gatorade North Dakota Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Levin is the first Gatorade North Dakota Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from West Fargo 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 Levin as North Dakota'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, Levin 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-11 junior sprinter won three individual state championships this spring and led the Majettes to a third-place finish as a team at the Class A state meet. Levin won the 100-meter dash with a time of 12.05 seconds, the 200-meter dash in 25.19 and the 400-meter dash in 58.57. A two-time First Team All-State selection, she became the first West Fargo athlete to win the 100, the 200 and the 400 at the state meet and completed the season undefeated in all three events.

Levin has maintained a 3.49 GPA in the classroom. A devoted parishioner in her church community, she has volunteered locally as a Sunday School teacher and raising funds for cancer research in association with Susan G. Komen for the Cure.

"Amanda Levin's work ethic and overall performance are very impressive," said West Fargo head coach Darrin McKinnon. "She has abundant enthusiasm for the sport of track and field. She has set high expectations and standards, gaining respect by maintaining goals that are used to motivate herself and her teammates."

Levin will begin her senior year of high school 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 the Gatorade high school sports leadership team in partnership with [USA TODAY High School Sports](#), 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.

Levin joins recent Gatorade North Dakota Girls Track & Field Athletes of the Year Morgan Milbrath (2011-12 & 2010-11, Minot High School), and Laura Roesler (2009-10, 2008-09, 2007-08 & 2006-2007, Fargo South), 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 [www.gatorade.com/poy](http://www.gatorade.com/poy).

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