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**NORTHEAST HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE TENNESSEE 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 Brittany Kelly of Northeast High School as its 2012-13 Gatorade Tennessee Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Kelly is the first Gatorade Tennessee Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Northeast 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 Kelly as Tennessee'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, Kelly 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-7 junior won four individual state championships this spring and led the Eagles to the Class AAA state title. Kelly won the pentathlon with 3,475 points, the 100-meter hurdles with a time of 14.25 seconds, the 300-meter hurdles in 44.43 and the long jump with a leap of 18 feet, 3.25 inches. She also ran the anchor leg on Northeast's 4x400-meter relay quartet that finished fourth. Kelly was undefeated in the 100 hurdles, 300 hurdles, long jump and pentathlon this spring. Her best high jump of 5-8 ranked as the nation's No. 32 performance among prep competitors in 2013 at the time of her selection. Her best time in the 100 hurdles ranked No. 56 in the nation.

Kelly has maintained a B-plus average in the classroom. A member of the Northeast High Beta Honor Society and French Club, she has volunteered locally as an official at youth track meets.

"Plain and simple, Brittany is a great kid and a great student-athlete with drive, motivation and a can-do attitude," said DeMone Chestnut, head coach of West Creek High. "I will be glad to see her graduate because she has gotten my girls squad way too nervous."

Kelly 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.

Kelly joins recent Gatorade Tennessee Girls Track & Field Athletes of the Year Jennifer Cannon (2011-12, Tennessee High School), Jordan Lavender (2010-11, University School of Nashville), LaQuisha Jackson (2009-10, Howard School), Sharika Nelvis (2008-09, Nortide), and Jackie Coward (2007-08 & 2006-2007, West), 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.