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**BOISE HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE IDAHO BOYS TRACK & FIELD ATHLETE OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 20, 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 Thomas Rigby of Boise High School as its 2012-13 Gatorade Idaho Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Rigby is the second Gatorade Idaho Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Boise 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 Rigby as Idaho's 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, Rigby 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 6-foot, 155-pound senior two individual state championships this spring, leading the Braves to a fourth-place finish as a team at the Class 5A state meet. Rigby won the 800-meter run with a time of 1:50.80, the 1600-meter run in 4:18.57 and the 3200-meter run in 9:31.16. A 2013 First Team All-State honoree, Rigby's time in the 800 at the state meet is a state record is ranked as the nation's No. 13 mark by a prep competitor in 2013 at the time of his selection.

Rigby has maintained a 4.0 GPA and is ranked first in his graduating class. A talented vocalist in school's concert choir, he has volunteered locally on behalf of community cleanup projects and multiple community service initiatives in association with the National Honor Society.

"Thomas Rigby had an amazing year for us in track and field," said Boise High athletic director Tracy Leinen. "At the state meet, he just decided that he was going to step up give it his all. He did it with a lot of character and has become a leader in our school."

Rigby will attend Stanford University, where he will compete in track and field on scholarship 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.

Rigby joins recent Gatorade Idaho Boys Track & Field Athletes of the Year Erik Harris (2011-12, Twin Falls High School), Dallas Burroughs (2010-11, Rocky Mountain High School), A.J. Bouilly (2009-10, Borah), Mitch Simmonds (2008-09, Cole Valley Christian), Eric Fitzpatrick (2007-08, Boise), and Taylor Farnsworth (2006-2007, Highland) 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.

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