

**Contact: Lauren Rollins (312-729-3607)**

**NORTHEAST HIGH SCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE TENNESSEE GIRLS TRACK & FIELD ATHLETE OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 19, 2014) — In its 29<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 Brittany Kelly of Northeast High School as its 2013-14 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 returning Gatorade State Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year, the 5-foot-7 senior won four individual state championships for a second straight spring and led the Eagles to the Class AAA state title. Kelly set a state record in the pentathlon with 3,493 points and won the 100-meter hurdles with a state-record time of 13.95 seconds as well as the 300-meter hurdles in a state-record 43.98. She captured gold in the high jump with a clearance of 5 feet, 6 inches to complete the multi-event sweep. She is ranked in the top 40 nationally among prep competitors this season in both the 100 hurdles and high jump.

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

"Brittany Kelly is a truly great competitor," said Ron Seigenthaler, head coach of Brentwood High. "She is very skilled as a multi-event track and field athlete. I cannot think of a better candidate."

Kelly has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete in track and field on an athletic scholarship at the University of Mississippi 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.

Two-time winner Kelly joins 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](http://www.gatorade.com/poy).

###