

Contact: Matt Schiffman (312-729-3672)

**STANTON COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE FLORIDA BOYS TRACK & FIELD ATHLETE OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 20, 2014) — In its 29th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Kendal Williams of Stanton College Preparatory School as its 2013-14 Gatorade Florida Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Williams is the first Gatorade Florida Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Stanton College Preparatory 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 Williams as Florida'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, Williams 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 5-foot-11, 165-pound senior won the 100-meter dash with a time of 10.33 seconds and the 200-meter dash in 20.96 at the Class 4A state championship meet this spring. Williams also won the adidas Dream 100 in 10.46 and captured the 200-meter title at the Golden South Classic with a time of 20.55, the latter of which ranked as the nation's No. 2 performance among prep competitors in 2014 at the time of his selection.

Williams has maintained a weighted 3.22 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally on behalf of youth track programs and a homeless shelter.

"Kendal is not only a talented athlete, but he works very hard at it," said Stanton Prep head coach Rodney Smith. "He's determined, dedicated and driven to succeed. He has Olympic aspirations, and he will be a great addition to the Florida State track program."

Williams has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete in track and field on scholarship at Florida State University 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.

Williams joins recent Gatorade Florida Boys Track & Field Athletes of the Year Trayvon Bromell (2012-13, Gibbs High School), Arman Hall (2011-12, St. Thomas Aquinas High School), Armando del Valle (2010 - 11, Columbus High School), Cody Riggs (2009-10, St. Thomas Aquinas), Neamen Wise (2008-09, Lake Brantley), Jeff Demps (2007-08, South Lake), and Deonte Thompson (2006-2007, Glades Central Community) 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.

###