

Contact: Matt Schiffman (312-729-3672)

**BLOOMINGTON HIGH SCHOOL SOUTH STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE INDIANA 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 Deakin Volz of Bloomington High School South as its 2013-14 Gatorade Indiana Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Volz is the first Gatorade Indiana Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Bloomington High School South.

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 Volz as Indiana'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, Volz 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, 160-pound junior cleared a state-meet record 17 feet, 0.5 inches to claim the state title in the pole vault this spring. A three-time conference, sectional and regional champion in the event, Volz also broke the overall state record with an effort of 17-3, which ranked as the nation's No. 4 performance among prep competitors in 2014 at the time of his selection.

Volz has maintained a 3.81 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally on behalf of a food bank, toy collection drives and his church's religious education program.

"Deakin is a very goal-oriented person who works very hard," said Bloomington South coach Larry Williams. "His progression has been very consistent and he does a great job of balancing himself as a student-athlete. He has real insight into the event of pole vaulting."

Volz will begin his 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.

Volz joins recent Gatorade Indiana Boys Track & Field Athletes of the Year Codie Hamsley (2012-13, Floyd Central High School), Futsum Zeinasellassie (2011-12, North Central High School), Austin Mudd (2010 - 11 & 2009-10, Center Grove High School), Corey Shank (2008-09, Northrop), Kevin Schipper (2007-08, Bishop Dwenger), and Benjamin Roy Stephen (2006-2007, Union County) 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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