

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Matt Schiffman (312-729-3672)

**DUNCAN HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE OKLAHOMA 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 Kevin Roddy of Duncan High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade Oklahoma Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Roddy is the second Gatorade Oklahoma Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Duncan 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 Roddy as Oklahoma'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, Roddy 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-5, 300-pound senior won the discus with a throw of 174 feet, 10 inches at the Class 5A state championship meet this spring, leading the Demons to a second-place finish as a team. Roddy also took silver in the shot put, then captured shot put gold at the state Meet of Champions, with a throw of 58-9. Roddy's season-best discus effort of 195-7 ranked as the nation's No. 9 performance among prep competitors in 2014 at the time of his selection.

Roddy has maintained a perfect 4.0 GPA in the classroom. A devoted member of his church community and a peer mentor in his school, he has volunteered locally on behalf of a county science fair as well as youth track programs.

"Kevin has gotten stronger and progressed every year," said Duncan head coach Todd Ledford. "He really studies the sport and he's travelled all over the country to compete and get better. He's a great athlete and a great student as well."

Roddy has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete in track and field on scholarship at the University of Virginia 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.

Roddy joins recent Gatorade Oklahoma Boys Track & Field Athletes of the Year Bo Farrow (2012-13, Broken Arrow High School), Bryce Robinson (2011-12, Edmond Memorial High School), Gunnar Nixon (2010 - 11 & 2009-10, Edmond Santa Fe High School), Jack Whitt (2008-09, Norman North), and Geoffrey Tabor (2007-08 & 2006-2007, Ardmore) 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.

###