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**BARRINGTON HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE RHODE ISLAND BOYS TRACK & FIELD ATHLETE OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 20, 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 Adam Kelly of Barrington High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade Rhode Island Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Kelly is the second Gatorade Rhode Island Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Barrington 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 Rhode Island'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, Kelly 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-2, 248-pound junior won the hammer throw at the Class B Championships this spring and led the Eagles to a first-place finish as a team. Kelly's gold medal effort of 223 feet, 5 inches set a meet record and ranked as the nation's No. 4 performance among prep competitors in 2014 at the time of his selection. He took bronze in the hammer at the New Balance Nationals Outdoor championships and won the national championships in the weight throw at the New Balance Nationals Indoor championships during the winter season.

Kelly has maintained a 3.58 GPA in the classroom. A trumpet player in the Barrington High jazz band, he is a member of both the school's Science Olympiad and Math Team. He has also volunteered locally as a youth track coach.

"Adam is a true student-athlete who practices what he preaches," said Bob Palazzo, head coach of Classical High. "His outstanding academic work has driven him in the throwing circle. He is a great example on how to balance being a student-athlete."

Kelly 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.

Kelly joins recent Gatorade Rhode Island Boys Track & Field Athletes of the Year Charlie Ionata (2012-13, Barrington High School), Joe Velez (2011-12, Classical High School), Jarell Forbes (2010 - 11, Classical High School), Kadeem Kushimo (2009-10, La Salle Academy), Andrew Springer (2008-09 & 2007-08, Westerly), and Jake Keeling (2006-2007, Ponaganset) 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).

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