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**KENAI CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE ALASKA GIRLS TRACK & FIELD ATHLETE OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 17, 2015) — In its 30th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Allie Ostrander of Kenai Central High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade Alaska Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Ostrander is the second Gatorade Alaska Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Kenai Central 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 Ostrander as Alaska'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, Ostrander 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 5-foot-1 senior won three individual state championships at the Class 4A state meet for a second consecutive season, leading the Cardinals to second place as a team. The state's returning Gatorade Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year, Ostrander swept the 800-meter run with a time of 2:11.30, the 1,600-meter run in a state-record 4:48.31 and the 3,200-meter run in a state-record 10:09.72, repeating as the meet's Outstanding Competitor as named by the Alaska State Activities Association. Her season-best 3,200 clocking of 9:58.74 ranked as the nation's No. 2 time among prep competitors in 2015 at the time of her selection. Also the two-time reigning Gatorade Alaska Girls Cross Country Runner of the Year, she won the 2015 Nike Cross Nationals Final this past fall and placed fourth in the 2-mile run as a junior at the 2014 New Balance Nationals Outdoor championships.

Ostrander has maintained a 4.04 GPA in the classroom and served in the National Honor Society. The student representative on the Kenai City Council as well as a peer mentor and the manager of a coffee shop at her school, she has hosted a youth running camp and founded the Salmon Run Series to respectively benefit the Tsalteshi Trail Association and Kenai Watershed Forum.

"You couldn't find a better Gatorade State Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year candidate than Allie Ostrander," said Marcus Dunbar, head coach of rival Kodiak High. "She is a phenomenal runner, an outstanding student and has a wonderful personality."

Ostrander has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete on an athletic scholarship at Boise 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.

Two-time winner Ostrander joins Gatorade Alaska Girls Track & Field Athletes of the Year Audrey Michaelson (2012-13, Colony High School), Morgan Dampier (2011-12 & 2010-11, Wasilla High School), Lierin Flanagan (2009-10, Kenai Central), Gabrielle Todd (2008-09, Bartlett), Leah Francis (2007-08, Juneau-Douglas), and Andrea Crook (2006-07, Bartlett) 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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