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**OAKDALE HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE MARYLAND 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 Jackie McNulty of Oakdale High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade Maryland Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year. McNulty is the first Gatorade Maryland Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Oakdale 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 McNulty as Maryland'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, McNulty 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-8 senior won three individual championships at the Class 2A state meet for the second consecutive season, leading the Bears to the team title. The two-time returning Frederick News-Post Outdoor Track & Field Athlete of the Year, McNulty cleared 12 feet, 4 inches in the pole vault, soared 17-10.25 in the long jump and leapt 38-4.75 in the triple jump. She also anchored the winning 4x400-meter relay quartet that broke the tape in 4:06.14. Her season-best pole vault of 13-4 ranked as the nation's No. 10 performance among U.S. prep competitors in 2015 at the time of her selection.

McNulty has maintained a 4.74 weighted GPA in the classroom. In addition to donating her time as a youth track and gymnastics instructor, she has also served as a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and volunteered on behalf of her church.

"Not many athletes are like Jackie McNulty," said C.J. Ecalono, head coach of rival Urbana High. "I have had the pleasure of watching her compete over the last four years and seven seasons. She is the epitome of a student-athlete in every step of the way. She is strong on the runways, and she is even stronger in the classrooms. Her athletic abilities are second to none, and the way she carried herself at meets was a beautiful thing to watch."

McNulty has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete in track and field on scholarship at Stanford 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.

McNulty joins recent Gatorade Maryland Girls Track & Field Athletes of the Year Javonne Antoine (2013-14, Elizabeth Seton High School), Ellie Gonzalez (2012-13, The Catholic High School of Baltimore), Mobolaji Adeokun (2011-12, DuVal High School), Olivia Ekpone (2010-11, 2009-10 & 2007-08, Northwest High School), Lorraine Graham (2008-09, Charles Herbert Flowers), and Tasha Stanley (2006-07, Eleanor Roosevelt) 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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