

Contact: Kelly Magnus (312-729-3622)

**ST. ALBANS HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE WEST VIRGINIA 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 Anacia Hines of St. Albans High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade West Virginia Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Hines is the first Gatorade West Virginia Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from St. Albans 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 Hines as West Virginia'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, Hines 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 senior won three individual state championships at the Class AAA state meet and led the Red Dragons to an eighth-place finish as a team. Hines won the 100-meter dash in 12.28 seconds, the 200-meter dash with a time of 25.35 and the 100-meter high hurdles in 14.52. The two-time Mountain State Athletic Conference Female Athlete of the Year, she holds the state record in the 100 hurdles with a time of 14.36.

Hines has maintained a 3.57 GPA in the classroom. A gifted singer, she sang the national anthem at all the Saint Albans basketball games this winter. The winner of the Community Service Award at Saint Albans High, she is a student leader in the West Virginia State University Classic Upward Bound Program, which helps prepare high school students prepare for college.

"Anacia is the most outstanding athlete I have coached in 30 years of coaching track," said Mike Reed, head coach of Saint Albans High. "And she is the most outstanding track athlete in the state."

Hines has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete in track and field on an athletic scholarship at Coastal Carolina University in Conway, S.C., 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.

Hines joins recent Gatorade West Virginia Girls Track & Field Athletes of the Year Amelia Paladino (2013-14, University High School), Maggie Drazba (2012-13, St. Marys High School), Emily Godwin (2011-12 & 2010-11, Buckhannon-Upshur High School), Bria Welker (2009-10, Frankfort), Taylor Brown (2008-09, Jefferson), Meghan Mock (2007-08, Berkeley Springs), and Kaylyn Christopher (2006-07, Preston) 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.