FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Matt Schiffman (312-729-3672)

WILTON HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE CONNECTICUT BOYS TRACK & FIELD ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 19, 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 Spencer Brown of Wilton High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade Connecticut Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Brown is the first Gatorade Connecticut Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Wilton 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 Brown as Connecticut'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, Brown 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 5-foot-8, 120-pound senior won the 800-meter run with a time of 1:55.16 at the State Open championships this past season. Brown placed second in the 1,600 in 4:17.25. At the Class L divisional championships, he swept the 800-meter run in 1:50.88 and the 1,600 in 4:13.29, leading the Warriors to fourth place as a team. His 800-meter clocking at the class meet ranked as the nation's No. 16 time among prep competitors in 2015 at the time of his selection.

Brown has maintained a 3.54 GPA in the classroom. Also a member of the school band, he has donated his time as an active member of his church community.

"He has achieved remarkably and set some standards that may not be broken for a very long time," said Bill Martin, head coach of rival New Canaan High. "His performances alone at the state class championships and state open should garner him nationwide attention."

Brown has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete in track and field on scholarship at Georgetown University this fall.

The <u>Gatorade Player of the Year</u> 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 <u>USA TODAY High School Sports</u>, 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.

Brown joins recent Gatorade Connecticut Boys Track & Field Athletes of the Year Tyler Latham (2013-14, Fitch High School), Henry Wynne (2012-13, Staples High School), Jake Scinto (2011-12, Cheshire High School), John Wlasuk (2010-11, Newtown High School), Chris FitzSimons (2009-10, Hamden), Cas Loxsom (2008-09, Wilbur Cross), Donn Cabral (2007-08, Glastonbury), and Terrell Wilks (2006-07, Hillhouse) 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 <u>www.gatorade.com/poy</u>.