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**GAITHER HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE FLORIDA BOYS TRACK & FIELD ATHLETE OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 19, 2015) — In its 30<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 Samson Moore of Gaither High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade Florida Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Moore is the first Gatorade Florida Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Gaither 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 Moore as Florida'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, Moore 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-3, 190-pound senior broke the tape in the 300-meter intermediate hurdles with a time of 36.53 seconds at the Class 3A state meet this spring. Moore's state title-winning time ranked as the nation's No. 3 performance among prep competitors in 2015 at the time of his selection.

Moore has maintained a 3.42 GPA in the classroom. A devoted member of his church community, he has volunteered locally on behalf of a homeless shelter and a Vacation Bible School.

"This was almost like his redemption year, his last chance to win a state championship," said Gaither coach Ryne LoJacono. "He put so much into it, ever since he was a kid, and it was a huge victory. All the hard work he's done paid off."

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

Moore joins recent Gatorade Florida Boys Track & Field Athletes of the Year Kendal Williams (2013-14, Stanton College Preparatory School), Trayvon Bromell (2012-13, Gibbs High School), Arman Hall (2011-12, St. Thomas Aquinas High School), Armando del Valle (2010-11, Columbus High School), Cody Riggs (2009-10, St. Thomas Aquinas), Neamen Wise (2008-09, Lake Brantley), Jeff Demps (2007-08, South Lake), and Deonte Thompson (2006-07, Glades Central) 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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