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**LEWISTON HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE MAINE 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 Isaiah Harris of Lewiston High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade Maine Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Harris is the first Gatorade Maine Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Lewiston 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 Harris as Maine'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, Harris 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-2, 185-pound senior won the 800-meter run with a time of 1:52.74 at the New England Interscholastic Track & Field Outdoor Championships, producing a state-record time for the second consecutive season. The Maine Sunday Telegram's returning Outdoor Track & Field Boys' Performer of the Year, Harris also captured three individual titles at the Class A state meet, leading the Blue Devils to the team title. Harris broke the tape in the 200-meter dash with a time of 22.25 seconds, the 800 in 1:55.42 and the 1,600 in 4:18.92, becoming the first Maine competitor in history to win that three-event triple at the state meet. For good measure, he ran the third leg of the winning 4x400-meter relay quartet, which clocked a 3:28.24.

Harris has maintained a 3.25 GPA in the classroom. Also a basketball standout, he has served as a mentor and motivational speaker for younger basketball and track athletes entering the program.

"Let me put it very simply: If I could pick one opposing athlete in the last decade to be on our team, it would be Isaiah Harris," said Ryan LaRoche, head coach of rival Edward Little High. "He is exactly the kind of young man any coach would want on his or her team. He is a great role model for the younger athletes, as he is a hard worker and a very humble and talented athlete. He is as versatile as any athlete I have seen in my decade as a head coach and two decades as a track coach—and even in my three decades as an athlete, volunteer and coach."

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

Harris joins recent Gatorade Maine Boys Track & Field Athletes of the Year Daniel Curtis (2013-14, Ellsworth High School), Jared Bell (2012-13, Deering High School), Matthew McClintock (2011-12, Madison Area Memorial High School), Jack Terwilliger (2010-11, Cheverus High School), Will Geoghegan (2009-10, Brunswick), Dan Smith (2008-09, Thornton Academy), and David Slovenski (2007-08 & 2006-07, Brunswick) 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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