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**FAITH LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE NEVADA 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 Mark Rubalcaba of Faith Lutheran High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade Nevada Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Rubalcaba is the first Gatorade Nevada Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Faith Lutheran 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 Rubalcaba as Nevada'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, Rubalcaba 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-9, 150-pound senior won the long jump and the triple jump at the Division IA state meet and led the Crusaders to the state championship as a team. Rubalcaba set meet records in capturing gold in both the long jump (24 feet, 8 inches) and the triple jump (48-6.5) for a third straight year. Both leaps ranked in the nation's top 30 performances among prep competitors in 2015 at the time of his selection. He also placed second at the state meet in the 100-meter dash and fourth in the 200.

Rubalcaba has maintained a weighted 3.83 GPA in the classroom. A member of the Mu Alpha Theta mathematics honor society, he has volunteered locally as a kindergarten teacher's aide and as part of multiple community-service initiatives through his church.

"Mark Rubalcaba was dominant in every event he competed in and he was always very humble in winning," said Ryan Quinn, head coach of Sierra Vista High. "He had great natural athletic ability but he also put in the work to get better and be the best."

Rubalcaba has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete in track and field on scholarship at Auburn University beginning 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.

Rubalcaba joins recent Gatorade Nevada Boys Track & Field Athletes of the Year Dominic Smallwood (2013-14, Silverado High School), Randall Cunningham (2012-13, Bishop Gorman High School), Nick Hartle (2011-12 & 2010-11, Centennial High School), Garic Wharton (2009-10 & 2008-09, Valley), Joseph Abbott (2007-08, Galena), and Cameron Kroll (2006-07, Reno High School) 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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