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**CHELTENHAM HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE PENNSYLVANIA 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 John Lewis of Cheltenham High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade Pennsylvania Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Lewis is the first Gatorade Pennsylvania Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Cheltenham 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 Lewis as Pennsylvania'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, Lewis 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-11, 170-pound senior won the 800-meter run with a state-record time of 1:48.72 at the Class AAA state meet this spring, leading the Panthers to the state championship as a team. The Pennsylvania Track and Field Coaches Association Boys Athlete of the Year, Lewis also anchored the 4x400 relay to a state title in 3:13.44. His state-record mark in the 800 ranked as the nation's No. 2 time among prep competitors in 2015 at the time of his selection.

Lewis has maintained a B average in the classroom. A peer mentor in his school, he has volunteered locally on behalf of a summer camp.

"He had an outstanding season and it just kept getting better," said Cheltenham coach Rob Beale. "He's been such a pillar for our program. He never ceased to amaze me."

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

Lewis joins recent Gatorade Pennsylvania Boys Track & Field Athletes of the Year Max Adams (2013-14, Hempfield Area Senior High School), Jon Yohman (2012-13, Wilmington Area High School), Billy Stanley (2011-12, South Park High School), Eric Futch (2010-11, Penn Wood High School), Tom Mallon (2009-10, Central Bucks South), Justin Shirk (2008-09 & 2007-08, Central Dauphin), and Paul Springer (2006-07, Unionville 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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