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Contact: Matt Schiffman (312-729-3672)

BRENTWOOD ACADEMY STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE TENNESSEE 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 George Patrick of Brentwood Academy as its 2014-15 Gatorade Tennessee Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Patrick is the third Gatorade Tennessee Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Brentwood Academy.

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 Patrick as Tennessee'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, Patrick 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-1, 175-pound junior captured five individual state titles at the Division II state meet and led the Eagles to a state championship as a team. Patrick won the 110-meter high hurdles, the 300-meter intermediate hurdles, the long jump, the triple jump and the decathlon. His leap of 23 feet, 8.75 inches in the long jump ranked as the nation's No. 29 performance among prep competitors in 2015 at the time of his selection while his 47-3.25 effort in the triple jump ranked No. 60.

Patrick has maintained a 3.65 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally as part of fundraising campaigns to benefit cancer and autism research, and he has donated his time at a food bank as well as Habitat for Humanity. He also served as a student leader on a service-mission trip to Haiti, where he helped build a community center and medical clinic.

"If I were building my dream track team for 2015, George Patrick would be my clear No. 1 choice," said Mike Wood, head coach of McCallie School. "As I observed George this year I was impressed with his attention to detail. It's obvious his success is not just his physical ability; he has put in the work to perfect his performances."

Patrick will begin his senior year of high school 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.

Patrick joins recent Gatorade Tennessee Boys Track & Field Athletes of the Year Harrison Williams (2013-14, Memphis University School), Brock Baker (2012-13 & 2011-12, Oakland High School), Tyler Anderson (2010-11, Hillsboro High School), Kevin Lazas (2009-10, Brentwood), Jordan Chaney (2008-09, Maryville), Sean Keveren (2007-08, Brentwood), and Ben Davies (2006-07, Brentwood) 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>.