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**CANYON HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE TEXAS 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 Norman Grimes of Canyon High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade Texas Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Grimes is the first Gatorade Texas Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Canyon 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 Grimes as Texas'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, Grimes 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, 160-pound junior won the 300-meter intermediate hurdles with a time of 36.35 seconds at the Class 5A state meet this spring. Grimes broke the tape in the 300 hurdles at the Texas Relays as well and his 36.10 clocking ranked as the nation's No. 1 time among prep competitors in 2015 at the time of his selection. He also captured the 110-meter high hurdles title at the prestigious Great Southwest Classic and his winning time of 50.80 in the 400-meter intermediate hurdles at the Caribbean Scholastic Invitational ranked No. 2 nationally among U.S. prep competitors.

Grimes has maintained a B average in the classroom. He has served as an elementary school mentor and has volunteered locally on behalf of youth track programs.

"Norman is just a great young man, and he showed enormous determination and fortitude this past season," said Canyon coach Kirk Rodgers. "He had an emergency appendectomy two weeks before the district meet, and fought his way back to win a state title."

Grimes will begin his senior year of high school 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.

Grimes joins recent Gatorade Texas Boys Track & Field Athletes of the Year Kendall Sheffield (2013-14, Thurgood Marshall High School), Tony Brown (2012-13, Ozen High School), Abraham Hall (2011-12, South Grand Prairie High School), Devin Field (2010-11, Lancaster High School), Sheroid Evans (2009-10, Dulles), Marquise Goodwin (2008-09 & 2007-08, Rowlett), and Robert Griffin (2006-07, Copperas Cove) 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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