Contact: Matt Schiffman (312-729-3672)

## GRASSFIELD HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE VIRGINIA BOYS TRACK & FIELD ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 19, 2015) — In its 30<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Grant Holloway of Grassfield High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade Virginia Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Holloway is the first Gatorade Virginia Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Grassfield 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 Holloway as Virginia'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, Holloway 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-4, 185-pound junior captured four individual state titles at the Group 6A state meet and led the Grizzlies to a state championship as a team. Holloway won the long jump with a meet-record leap of 25 feet, 8.75 inches, which ranked as the nation's No. 1 performance among prep competitors in 2015 at the time of his selection. He also took first the 300-meter intermediate hurdles in 36.73, which ranked as the nation's No. 9 time, the 110-meter high hurdles and the high jump. Holloway is ranked in the top 25 nationally in the 110 hurdles and the high jump, and clocks in among the top 100 nationally in the 200-meter dash. The co-holder of the national prep record in the indoor 55-meter high hurdles, he finished as the national runner-up in both the 60-meter high hurdles and the high jump at this past winter's New Balance Nationals Indoor and concluded the indoor season ranked in the top 10 nationally in seven events (55 hurdles, 60 hurdles, high jump, 55-meter dash, 300-meter dash, 500-meter dash and long jump).

Holloway has maintained a B average in the classroom. He has volunteered locally with the Special Olympics and as a youth track and football coach.

"Grant Holloway is a monster," said Tom Anderson, head coach of Landstown High. "I have coached track and field in the state of Virginia for 27 years and Grant is one of the best all-around athletes I have ever seen. I think if he continues to develop he could make the Olympic Team in 2020."

Holloway 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 <a href="USA TODAY High School Sports">USA TODAY High School Sports</a>, 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.

Holloway joins recent Gatorade Virginia Boys Track & Field Athletes of the Year John Warren (2013-14, Prince George High School), Michael Cherry (2012-13, Oscar Smith High School), Ahmed Bile (2011-12, Annandale High School), Isaiah Simmons (2010-11, Woodbridge High School), Darrell Wesh (2009-10, Landstown), Tyler Stutzman (2008-09, Western Albemarle), and Peter Dorrell (2007-08 & 2006-07, Blacksburg) 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 <a href="https://www.gatorade.com/poy.">www.gatorade.com/poy.</a>