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**BELLARMINA PREPARATORY SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE WASHINGTON 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 Jack Yearian of Bellarmine Preparatory School as its 2014-15 Gatorade Washington Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Yearian is the first Gatorade Washington Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Bellarmine Preparatory 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 Yearian as Washington'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, Yearian 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-7, 120-pound junior captured two individual state titles at the Class 4A state meet and led the Lions to an 11th-place finish as a team. Yearian took first in the 1600-meter run with a time of 4:12.14 and the 3200 in 8:59.94. The winner of the 3200 seeded section race at the prestigious Arcadia Invitational, he was ranked in the top 75 nationally among prep competitors in 2015 at the time of his selection in the 800, 1500, 1600 and 3200.

Yearian has maintained a 3.82 GPA in the classroom. An officer with the Associated Student Body at Bellarmine Prep, he has volunteered locally at a food bank and homeless shelter and as a youth track coach.

"Jack Yearian was amazing and basically unbeatable this spring," said Eric Hruschka, head coach of Henry Jackson High. "His closing speed over the last lap is a real gift that he is perfecting. He has one of the best kicks we have seen in 20 years and it is making him a champion, not just a really fast runner."

Yearian 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.

Yearian joins recent Gatorade Washington Boys Track & Field Athletes of the Year Drew Schreiber (2013-14, Eisenhower High School), Marcus Chambers (2012-13, Henry Foss High School), Marcus Dickson (2011-12, White River High School), Kasen Williams (2010-11, Skyline High School), Derek Eager (2009-10, Tahoma), Shane Moskowitz (2008-09, Central Kitsap), Miles Unterreiner (2007-08, Gig Harbor), and Jordan Stray (2006-07, Centralia 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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