

Contact: John Manzo (312-729-3656)

**OAK PARK HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE MICHIGAN GIRLS TRACK & FIELD ATHLETE OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 23, 2016) — In its 31st year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Brianna Holloway of Oak Park High School as its 2015-16 Gatorade Michigan Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Holloway is the second Gatorade Michigan Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Oak Park 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 Michigan's best high school girls track & field athlete. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Girls 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 Allyson Felix (2001-02, Los Angeles Baptist, Calif.), Derek Jeter (1991-92, Kalamazoo HS, Mich.), Candace Parker (2001-02, Naperville Central HS, Ill.), Abby Wambach (1997-98, Our Lady of Mercy, N.Y.), Mark Sanchez (2004-05, Mission Viejo HS, Calif.), Lolo Jones (1997-98, Roosevelt HS, Ia.) and Bianca Knight (2006-07, Ridgeland HS, Miss.).

The 5-foot-7 senior won the 300-meter intermediate hurdles with a meet-record time of 42.71 seconds at the Division 1 state meet this past season, and ran on two record-setting relay quartets to lead the Knights to the state championship as a team. Holloway also finished second in the 100-meter high hurdles in addition to sprinting critical legs of the victorious 4x100 and 4x200 relay squads. The state record-holder in the 400 hurdles, she also won the 300 hurdles at the Midwest Meet of Champions.

Holloway has maintained a 3.53 GPA in the classroom. A mentor for younger students in her area, she has volunteered locally on behalf of youth track programs.

"Brianna has been one of the most dedicated and coachable athletes I have ever coached," said Oak Park coach Brandon Jiles. "As a freshman, she had the vision and goal of being one of the best hurdlers to ever run in Michigan, and she is a great example of how being persistent pays off."

Holloway has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete in track and field on scholarship at Ohio State 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.

Holloway joins recent Gatorade Michigan Girls Track & Field Athletes of the Year Annie Fuller (2014-15, Manistee High School), Anna Jefferson (2013-14, Oak Park High School), Hannah Meier (2012-13, 2011-12 & 2010-11, Grosse Pointe South High School), Megan Goethals (2009-10 & 2008-09, Rochester High School), Ariel Roberts (2007-08, Pioneer High School), and Mary Angell (2006-07, Byron Center 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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