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**CHARTER SCHOOL OF WILMINGTON STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE DELAWARE BOYS TRACK & FIELD ATHLETE OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 24, 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 Kevin Murray of Charter School of Wilmington as its 2015-16 Gatorade Delaware Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Murray is the second Gatorade Delaware Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Charter School of Wilmington.

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 Murray as Delaware'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, Murray 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-10, 135-pound senior won the 3,200-meter run with a time of 9:26.19 at the Meet of Champions this past season. A First Team All-State selection as named by the New Castle Coaches Cross Country & Track Association, Murray's 1,600-meter time of 4:14.80 at the New Castle County Track & Field Championships and 3,200-meter time of 9:12.31 at the Arcadia Invitational both ranked as the state's fastest time among prep competitors in 2016. His fastest 3,200 and 1,600 times also ranked fourth and 10th, respectively, in Delaware history.

Murray has maintained a 4.37 weighted GPA in the classroom and represents one of the state's top academic candidates in meeting the Gatorade award's broad criteria. A National Merit Scholarship semifinalist who has traveled to Taiwan as part of a student exchange program, he is member of the National Honor Society and the Model United Nations club. Murray has volunteered locally on behalf of the Boy Scouts of America and as part of a local road race. He has also participated in the Naval Academy's Summer STEM Program as well as West Point's Summer Leaders Experience.

"I think Kevin is a tremendous athlete and an exceptional role model," said Andy Shearer, head indoor track and cross country coach at rival Middletown High. "He is genuinely one of the nicer student-athletes I've been in contact with over the years. His support for his peers is a wonderful example of someone who views the success of others on the same plane as his own success."

Murray will attend the United States Naval Academy 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.

Murray joins recent Gatorade Delaware Boys Track & Field Athletes of the Year Kieran Tuntivate (2014-15, Charter School of Wilmington), Zach Schmelz (2013-14, St. Mark's High School), Lamar Bruton (2012-13, Howard High School of Technology), Sam Parsons (2011-12, The Tatnall School), Tyler Tate (2010-11, The Tatnall School), Ryan Lee (2009-10, Archmere Academy), Bobby Kennedy Jr. (2008-09, Caravel Academy), Isaiah Brisco (2007-08, Cape Henlopen High School), and Brian Sklodowski (2006-07, The Tatnall 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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