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**CECILIA HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE LOUISIANA BOYS TRACK & FIELD ATHLETE OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 24, 2016) — In its 31<sup>st</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Raymond Calais of Cecilia High School as its 2015-16 Gatorade Louisiana Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Calais is the first Gatorade Louisiana Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Cecilia 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 Calais as Louisiana'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, Calais 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-9, 190-pound senior won two individual titles and anchored two winning relay quartets at the Class 4A state meet this past season, leading the Bulldogs to the state championship as a team. Calais swept the 100-meter dash with a time of 10.59 seconds and the 200-meter dash in 21.21—also running strong closing legs on the victorious 4x100 and 4x200 relays. He also won the 100 and 200 at the district championships and was named the state's Outstanding Track Performer by the Louisiana Sports Writers Association.

Calais has maintained a 3.46 GPA in the classroom. A member of the Beta Club and the National Honor Society, he has volunteered on behalf of an area nursing home.

"Raymond demonstrates dedication, work ethic and class," said Cecilia coach Logan Duplechien. "He's been an exemplary member of both our football and track teams, but more importantly of our school."

Calais has signed a National Letter of Intent to play football on scholarship at the University of Louisiana-Lafayette 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.

Calais joins recent Gatorade Louisiana Boys Track & Field Athletes of the Year Armand Duplantis (2014-15, Lafayette High School), Devin King (2013-14, Jewel M. Sumner High School), Dylan Duvio (2012-13, John Curtis Christian School), Kavahra Holmes (2011-12 & 2010-11, Breaux Bridge High School), Andreas Duplantis (2009-10, Lafayette High School), Richard Sheldon (2008-09, Episcopal High School), Barrett Nugent (2007-08, North Vermillion High School), and Zedric Thomas (2006-07, New Iberia 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](http://www.gatorade.com/poy).

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