

Contact: John Manzo (312-729-3656)

**VOLCANO VISTA HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE NEW MEXICO 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 **Alejandro Goldston of Volcano Vista High School** as its **2015-16 Gatorade New Mexico Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year**. Goldston is the second Gatorade New Mexico Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Volcano Vista 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 Goldston as New Mexico'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, Goldston 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-11, 155-pound senior sprinter and jumper captured two individual championships this spring and anchored the winning 4x200 and 4x400-meter relay quartet, leading the Hawks to a second-place finish as a team at the Class 6A state meet. Goldston took first in the 200-meter dash with a time of 21.54 seconds as well as the long jump, soaring 23 feet, one inch. He also earned silver in the 100-meter dash (10.80) and set meet records in the 100 (10.94) and 200 (21.57) at the Richard Harper Invitational. In the preliminary rounds at the state meet, Goldston broke a 36-year-old state record in the 200 when he clocked a 21.19 into a headwind of 0.9 mph.

Goldston has maintained a 3.38 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally on behalf of the Special Olympics in addition to donating his time at a food bank and as a youth track & field coach.

"I believe that Alejandro Goldston is the best track athlete in New Mexico this season," said Sal Gonzalez, head coach at Rio Rancho High. "He was a dominant in the sprints, he was versatile and he was an excellent long jumper. He is a tactician and a sportsman."

Goldston has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete on an athletic scholarship at the University of New Mexico 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.

Goldston joins recent Gatorade New Mexico Boys Track & Field Athletes of the Year Jackson Morris (2014-15, Albuquerque Academy), Mike Budick (2013-14, Volcano Vista High School), Luis Martinez (2012-13 & 2011-12, Sue Cleveland High School), Eric Fenton (2010-11, Hope Christian School), Warrick Campbell (2009-10, Highland High School), and Curtis Beach (2008-09, 2007-08 & 2006-07, Albuquerque Academy) 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.

###