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**GRASSFIELD HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE VIRGINIA 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 Grant Holloway of Grassfield High School as its 2015-16 Gatorade Virginia Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Holloway is the first Gatorade Virginia Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Grassfield 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 Virginia'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, Holloway 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 returning Gatorade State Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year, the 6-foot-4, 195-pound senior captured three individual titles at the Group 6A state meet this past season, leading the Grizzlies to a second-place finish as a team. Holloway won the 110-meter high hurdles, the high jump and the long jump and took silver in the 200-meter dash. The national indoor record holder in the 55-meter hurdles and 60-meter hurdles, Holloway was the 2016 New Balance Nationals Indoor pentathlon champion. His season-best long jump of 25 feet, 5.75 inches ranked as the nation's No. 2 mark in 2016 among prep competitors at the time of his selection. He also ranked No. 5 nationally in the 110 hurdles, No. 36 in the high jump, No. 43 in the 200 and No. 55 in the 300-meter intermediate hurdles.

Holloway has maintained a B average in the classroom. He has volunteered locally with the Special Olympics and as a youth track and football coach.

"Grant Holloway is a phenomenal track athlete," said Pat Troia, head coach of Hickory High. "He is dominant in many events and his versatility is tremendous."

Holloway has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete in track and field on an athletic scholarship at the University of Florida beginning 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.

Two-time winner Holloway joins Gatorade Virginia Boys Track & Field Athletes of the Year John Warren (2013-14, Prince George High School), Michael Cherry (2012-13, Oscar Smith High School), Ahmed Bile (2011-12, Annandale High School), Isaiah Simmons (2010-11, Woodbridge High School), Darrell Wesh (2009-10, Landstown High School), Tyler Stutzman (2008-09, Western Albemarle High School), and Peter Dorrell (2007-08 & 2006-07, Blacksburg 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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