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**SHELBYVILLE CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE TENNESSEE GIRLS TRACK & FIELD PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 22, 2017) — In its 32nd year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, today announced Kethlin Campbell of Shelbyville Central High School as its 2016-17 Gatorade Tennessee Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Campbell is the first Gatorade Tennessee Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Shelbyville Central 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 Campbell as Tennessee'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, Campbell joins an elite alumni association of state track & field award-winners, including Lolo Jones (1997-98, Roosevelt High School, Iowa), Allyson Felix (2002-03, Los Angeles Baptist High School, Calif.), Robert Griffin III (2006-07, Copperas Cove High School, Texas), Grant Fisher (2013-14 & 2014-15, Grand Blanc High School, Mich.) and Candace Hill (2014-15, Rockdale County High School, Ga.).

The 5-foot-7 senior won the 100-meter dash, the 200 dash and the long jump at the Class AAA state meet this past season, leading the Golden Eagles to an eighth-place finish as a team. Campbell's title-winning leap of 20 feet, 3.5 inches in the long jump ranked as the nation's No. 6 performance among prep competitors this spring at the time of her selection. She also set a state record in the 200 with a time of 23.71 seconds at the Class AAA Section 2 Sub-Sectionals meet.

An American Legion Auxiliary Girls State representative in 2016, Campbell has volunteered locally in association with her school's Key Club and as a peer tutor. "Kethlin was phenomenal all season long," said Mario Braston, head coach of Franklin County High. "I've never seen an athlete come back from a season-ending injury and run as fast as she did."

Campbell has maintained a 3.98 GPA in the classroom and represents one of the state's top academic candidates in meeting the Gatorade award's broad criteria. She has signed a national letter of intent to compete on an athletic scholarship at Duke University 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 Player of the Year Selection Committee, 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.

Campbell joins recent Gatorade Tennessee Girls Track & Field Athletes of the Year Rebecca Story (2015-16, Christian Academy of Knoxville), Tamia Crockett (2014-15, Hardin Valley Academy), Brittany Kelly (2013-14 & 2012-13, Northeast High School), Jennifer Cannon (2011-12, Tennessee High School), Jordan Lavender (2010-11, University School of Nashville), LaQuisha Jackson (2009-10, Howard School), Sharika Nelvis (2008-09, Nortide High School), and Jackie Coward (2007-08 & 2006-07, West High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a Gatorade Player of the Year, Kethlin will be able to select a national or local youth sports organization to receive a grant as part of the Gatorade Play It Forward program. Every Gatorade Player of the Year state winner receives a \$1,000 grant to donate and will have the opportunity to enter for an additional \$10,000 spotlight grant by writing a brief essay explaining why their selected organization deserves additional support. 12 spotlight grants - one for each sport - will be announced throughout the year.

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.