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**RIDGEFIELD HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE WASHINGTON BOYS TRACK & FIELD PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 21, 2018) — In its 33rd year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, today announced Trey Knight of Ridgefield High School as its 2017-18 Gatorade Washington Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Knight is the first Gatorade Washington Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Ridgefield 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 Knight as Washington'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, Knight 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 6-foot-2, 205-pound sophomore won the shot put and the discus at the Class 2A state meet this past season, leading the Spudders to a second-place finish as a team. Knight ranked No. 1 in the nation among prep competitors in 2018 at the time of his selection thanks to his personal-best hammer throw of 233 feet, 10.5 inches at the Amity Throws Meet in June. His best effort in the shot put (63-5) ranked No. 17 and his top discus distance of 187-6 ranked No. 34 in the nation.

Knight has volunteered locally at Daybreak Youth Services, serving Christmas breakfast to residents. He has also donated his time as a youth track coach. "Trey is heads above all other competitors as a sophomore," said Mark Greenleaf, head coach of Woodland High. "He has great feet and quickness."

Knight has maintained a 3.77 GPA in the classroom and represents one of the state's top academic candidates in meeting the Gatorade award's broad criteria. He will begin his junior year of high school 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.

Knight joins recent Gatorade Washington Boys Track & Field Athletes of the Year Brigham Cardon (2016-17, Selah High School), Jack Yearian (2015-16 & 2014-15, Bellarmine Preparatory School), Drew Schreiber (2013-14, Eisenhower High School), Marcus Chambers (2012-13, Henry Foss High School), Marcus Dickson (2011-12, White River High School), Kasen Williams (2010-11, Skyline High School), Derek Eager (2009-10, Tahoma), Shane Moskowitz (2008-09, Central Kitsap), Miles Unterreiner (2007-08, Gig Harbor), and Kyle Schauble (2006-07, Kamiakin) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a Gatorade Player of the Year, Knight 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.

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