LAKE RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE TEXAS GIRLS TRACK & FIELD PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 20, 2019) — In its 34th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company today announced **Jasmine Moore of Lake Ridge High School** as its **2018-19 Gatorade Texas Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year**. Moore is the first Gatorade Texas Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Lake Ridge 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 Moore as Texas' 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, Moore 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 state's returning Gatorade Girls Track and Field Athlete of the Year, Moore won the long jump and the triple jump at the Class 6A state meet this past season. The 5-foot-8 senior soared 44 feet, 10 inches in the triple jump, which ranked as the nation's No. 1 performance among prep competitors in 2019 at the time of her selection, No. 3 in U.S. prep history. Her winning leap of 20-7 inches in the long jump ranked third in the nation this year.

Moore has volunteered locally on behalf of an animal shelter, playground restoration efforts and Mission Arlington. "Jasmine is the most focused, driven and hardest working competitor out there," said Lake Ridge coach Lauren Jones. "She is a team-first athlete, while also having very high standards and goals in her own individual events."

Moore has maintained an A average in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete in track and field on scholarship at the University of Georgia beginning this fall.

The <u>Gatorade Player of the Year</u> 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. From the 12 national winners, one male and one female athlete are each named Gatorade High School Athlete of the Year. In all, 607 athletes are honored each year.

Two-time winner Moore joins Gatorade Texas Girls Track & Field Athletes of the Year Kynnedy Flannel (2016-17, Alvin High School), Tonea Marshall (2015-16, Seguin High School), Samantha Gonzalez (2014-15, Creekview High School) and Desiree Freier (2013-14, Northwest High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a part of Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Moore also has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national youth sports organization of her choosing. She is also eligible to submit an essay to win one of twelve \$10,000 spotlight grants for the organization of choice, which will be announced throughout the year.

Since the program's inception in 1985, Gatorade Player of the Year award recipients have won hundreds of professional and college championships, and many have also turned into pillars in their communities, becoming coaches, business owners and educators.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit <u>www.Gatorade.com/POY</u>, on Facebook at <u>www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY</u> or follow us on Twitter at <u>www.twitter.com/Gatorade</u>.