

**ARCHBISHOP CARROLL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BOYS TRACK & FIELD PLAYER OF THE
YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 24, 2019) — In its 34th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company today announced **Kendel Hammock of Archbishop Carroll High School** as its **2018-19 Gatorade District of Columbia Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year**. Hammock is the first Gatorade District of Columbia Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Archbishop Carroll 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 Hammock as District of Columbia'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, Hammock 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, 185-pound senior won the 110-meter high hurdles at the Washington Catholic Athletic Conference Championships this past season, leading the Lions to a fifth-place finish as a team. Hammock's wind-legal, personal-best 110 hurdles time of 14.16 at New Balance Nationals Outdoor ranked No. 76 in the nation among prep competitors in 2019 at the time of his selection. Hammock also ranked in the Top 50 nationally in the 300-meter and 400-meter intermediate hurdles.

Hammock has volunteered locally as a youth track coach. "Kendel has been a changed athlete over the past year and a half," said Malcolm Drewery, assistant coach at DeMatha High School. "You could see it in his drive at practice. He would go through practices like he was competing at the track meets. I think the best is yet to come from Kendel."

Hammock has maintained a B average in the classroom. He has signed a national letter of intent to compete on an athletic scholarship at Michigan State 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. 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.

Hammock joins recent Gatorade District of Columbia Boys Track & Field Athletes of the Year Isaac Frumkin (2017-18, Woodrow Wilson High School), Eric Harrison (2016-17, St. John's College High School), Drew Glick (2015-16, Woodrow Wilson High School), Maurice Morris (2014-15, Roosevelt High School) and Acey Calhoun (2013-14, Woodrow Wilson High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a part of Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Hammock also has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national youth sports organization of his choosing. He 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 www.Gatorade.com/POY, on Facebook at www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY or follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/Gatorade.