



PLAYER OF THE YEAR
EST. 1985

June 23, 2016

Willie Ruffin
Head Boys Track & Field Coach
Capital High School
1500 Greenbrier St.
Charleston, WV 25311

Dear Coach Ruffin:

The Gatorade Company is proud to recognize Tristan Slater as the 2015-16 Gatorade West Virginia Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year!

In its 31st year, the Gatorade Player of the Year award honors top high school student-athletes in 12 varsity sports for their athletic excellence, academic achievement and exemplary character. The selection process is administered by the Gatorade high school sports leadership team in partnership with USA TODAY High School Sports. In narrowing and evaluating the list of candidates for Gatorade State Player of the Year honors, Gatorade and USA TODAY High School Sports work with top sport-specific experts and a media advisory board of accomplished, veteran prep sports journalists. Thus, the Gatorade Player of the Year award has become the most prestigious award in high school sports.

As West Virginia's honoree for 2015-16, Tristan joins the ranks of past Gatorade State Boys Track & Field Athletes of the Year, including Alan Webb & Kerron Clement. In addition, he is now eligible for the Gatorade National Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year award to be announced in June.

As part of Tristan's honor, a recognition package containing a trophy and formal letter will be sent to his home address within two weeks. Additionally, one trophy and one banner will be delivered within three weeks to your athletic director's attention to be formally presented to Tristan. A press release announcing his achievement will also be sent to high school sportswriters, radio and broadcast media throughout the state. To ensure that Tristan is appropriately recognized for his accomplishments, we hope you will notify your local media contacts and city officials, as well. And lastly, a high school sidelines kit, containing a cooler, cups, squeeze bottles and product, will arrive to your attention at the high school in a few weeks to be used for the track & field team.

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. We encourage you to visit www.gatorade.com/poy to learn more about the program, view a complete list of former winners, and nominate other deserving student-athletes for the Gatorade Player of the Year award.

On behalf of The Gatorade Company, we extend our congratulations to you, to Tristan's teammates, your coaching staff and the entire athletic department. You have all undoubtedly contributed to Tristan's success. Should you have any questions regarding your athlete's award, please contact Walann Reed at (847) 929-5515 or GatoradePOY@paragonmarketing.biz.

Sincerely,

Morgan Flatley
Vice President, Brand Marketing
The Gatorade Company