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**NEW ALBANY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE OHIO BOYS 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 Max Frye of New Albany High School as its 2016-17 Gatorade Ohio Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Frye is the first Gatorade Ohio Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from New Albany 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 Frye as Ohio'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, Frye 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, 155-pound senior won the 110-meter high hurdles with a time of 13.94 seconds and the 300-meter intermediate hurdles in 37.37 at the Division 1 state meet this past season. Both of Frye's winning times ranked among the nation's top 50 prep performances in 2017 at the time of his selection.

Frye has volunteered locally on behalf of the Special Olympics and youth sports programs. "His competitive nature makes him an outstanding performer under pressure," said New Albany coach Amy Glenn. "Max is a goal-oriented, dedicated and self-motivated individual. He's at his best when his best is needed."

Frye has maintained a 4.17 GPA in the classroom. He will attend Dartmouth College this fall, where he will compete in track and field.

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.

Frye joins recent Gatorade Ohio Boys Track & Field Athletes of the Year Andrew Jordan (2015-16, Watkins Memorial High School), Chad Zallow (2014-15, John F. Kennedy High School), Steele Wasik (2013-14, St. Edward High School), Desmond Palmer (2012-13, Pickerington High School North), Donovan Robertson (2011-12 & 2010-11, Berea High School), Justin Welch (2009-10, Eastwood High School), Danny Neff (2008-09, Butler High School), Cory Leslie (2007-08, Perkins High School), and Brandon Saine (2006-07, Piqua High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a Gatorade Player of the Year, Max 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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