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**DUBLIN COFFMAN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE OHIO GIRLS 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 Abby Steiner of Dublin Coffman High School as its 2017-18 Gatorade Ohio Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Steiner is the first Gatorade Ohio Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Dublin Coffman 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 Steiner as Ohio's 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, Steiner 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 5-foot-6 senior set a pair of state records at the Division 1 state meet this past season, winning the 100-meter dash with a time of 11.38 seconds and capturing the 200-meter dash in 22.73, which ranked as the nation's No. 2 performance among prep competitors in 2018 at the time of her selection as well as No. 6 in U.S. high school history. Steiner won four career state championships in the 200 and three in the 100.

Also a soccer standout, Steiner has participated in multiple community service initiatives on behalf of her church. "Abby has the natural speed and work ethic needed to be a great sprinter," said Coffman coach Greg King. "What really sets her apart is the way she thinks about track. She is a student of the sport and she is always looking for ways to improve."

Steiner has maintained a 3.86 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete in soccer and track and field on scholarship at the University of Kentucky 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.

Steiner joins recent Gatorade Ohio Girls Track & Field Athletes of the Year Molly Leppelmeier (2016-17, McComb High School), Abby Steiner (2015-16, Dublin Coffman High School), Karrington Winters (2014-15, New Albany High School), Allyson Simmons (2013-14, Fairless High School), Katelyn Daniels (2012-13, Olentangy Orange High School), Alyssa McBride (2011-12, Bryan High School), Kaila Barber (2010-11 & 2009-10, Midpark High School), Stephanie Morgan (2008-09 & 2007-08, Barnesville), and Emily Pendleton (2006-07, Woodmore) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a Gatorade Player of the Year, Steiner 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.