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**BILLINGS SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE MONTANA GIRLS TRACK & FIELD ATHLETE OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 19, 2013) — In its 28th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Morgan Sulser of Billings Senior High School as its 2012-13 Gatorade Montana Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Sulser is the second Gatorade Montana Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Billings Senior 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 Sulser as Montana'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, Sulser joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Allyson Felix (2001-02, Los Angeles Baptist, Calif.), Derek Jeter (1991-92, Kalamazoo HS, Mich.), Candace Parker (2001-02, Naperville Central HS, Ill.), Abby Wambach (1997-98, Our Lady of Mercy, N.Y.), Mark Sanchez (2004-05, Mission Viejo HS, Calif.), Lolo Jones (1997-98, Roosevelt HS, Ia.) and Bianca Knight (2006-07, Ridgeland HS, Miss.).

The 5-foot-3 junior sprinter and hurdler won the 100-meter hurdles in a state-record time of 14.11 seconds, the 200-meter dash in 25.20 and ran the opening leg for the 4x100-meter relay quartet that broke the tape in 48.65, leading the Lady Broncs to their third consecutive Class AA state championship as a team. A three-time Academic All-State selection, Sulser completed an undefeated season in the 100-hurdles.

Sulser has maintained a 3.67 GPA in the classroom. A member of the National Honor Society, she has volunteered locally on behalf of the Special Olympics and as a youth basketball and soccer coach.

"Morgan Sulser is a very special athlete who had phenomenal year for us," said Billings Senior High head coach Dave Greger. "She's a fierce competitor and has a work ethic that has helped bring her lots of success."

Sulser will begin her senior year of high school 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 high school sports leadership team in partnership with [USA TODAY High School Sports](#), 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.

Sulser joins recent Gatorade Montana Girls Track & Field Athletes of the Year Danielle Aragon (2011-12 & 2010-11, Billings Senior High School), Kellee Glaus (2009-10, Whitehall), Alexa Aragon (2008-09, Billings Senior), Melissa Jenkins (2007-08, Big Sky), and Marissa Tschida (2006-2007, Loyola Sacred Heart) among the state's list of former award winners.

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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