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

CHICAGO (June 17, 2015) — In its 30th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Christina Aragon of Billings Senior High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade Montana Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Aragon is the fourth 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 Aragon 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, Aragon 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-4 junior distance runner won three individual state championships at the Class AA state meet this spring, leading the Broncs to the state title as a team. Aragon won the 400-meter dash with a time of 55.87 seconds, the 800-meter run in 2:11.01 and the 1600-meter run in 4:46.34. A two-time Academic All-State, she broke the tape in the mile-run at the Adidas Grand Prix, crossing the line in 4:37.91, which ranked as the nation's No. 1 performance among prep competitors in 2015.

Aragon has maintained a 4.0 GPA and ranks first in a graduating class of 404 students. A member of the National Honor Society and the concert band, she has participated in a service-mission trip to Peru and volunteered as a senior student advocate at her school.

"I have not seen a better track & field athlete in the state than Christina Aragon," said Jerry Boschee, head coach at Glacier High. "She is an unbelievable talent on the track and very gracious off of it. She does not hesitate to congratulate her competitors and cheer for others."

Aragon 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.

Aragon joins recent Gatorade Montana Girls Track & Field Athletes of the Year Erika McLeod (2013-14, Butte High School), Morgan Sulser (2012-13, Billings Senior High School), 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 (2006-07, 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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