Contact: Kelly Magnus (312-729-3622)

## HERRIMAN HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE UTAH GIRLS TRACK & FIELD ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 17, 2015) — In its 30<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Lucy Biles of Herriman High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade Utah Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Biles is the first Gatorade Utah Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Herriman 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 Biles as Utah'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, Biles 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 2014-15 Gatorade State Girls Cross Country Runner of the Year, the 5-foot-7 senior won the 800-meter run at the Class 5A state meet and led the Mustangs to the state championship as a team. Biles also placed second in the 1600-meter run, third in the 3200-meter run and ran the anchor leg on Herriman's winning sprint medley relay quartet. Her season-best clocking of 10:18.94 in the 3200 at the Arcadia Invitational in California ranked as the nation's No. 10 time among prep competitors in 2015 at the time of her selection.

Biles has maintained a 3.48 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally on behalf of a school anti-bullying campaign and as part of multiple community-service initiatives in association with her church youth group.

"Lucy Biles has been probably the most consistent and clutch distance runner in Utah over the last few years," said Chase Englestead, head coach of Riverton High. "Lucy hates to lose. That type of competitiveness is part of the equation that needs to be there to be a great athlete."

Biles has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete in track and field on an athletic scholarship at the University of North Carolina 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.

Biles joins recent Gatorade Utah Girls Track & Field Athletes of the Year Sarah Feeny (2013-14, Ogden High School), Brenna Porter (2012-13, Sky View High School), Ashleigh Warner (2011-12, Mountain View High School), Lauren Baxter (2010-11, Timpview High School), Kylie Hirschi (2009-10, Brighton), Tiffany Hellstrom (2008-09, Bonneville), Natalie Stewart (2007-08, Spanish Fork), and Nachelle Stewart (2006-07, Spanish Fork) 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 <a href="https://www.gatorade.com/poy.">www.gatorade.com/poy.</a>