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**MOUNTAIN VIEW HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE® IDAHO GIRLS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (March 10, 2016) — In its 31<sup>st</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Destiny Slocum of Mountain View High School as its 2015-16 Gatorade Idaho Girls Basketball Player of the Year. Slocum is the first Gatorade Idaho Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Mountain View 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 court, distinguishes Slocum as Idaho's best high school girls basketball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Girls Basketball Player of the Year award announced in March, Slocum joins an elite alumni association of past state girls basketball award-winners, including Candace Parker (2001-02, Naperville Central HS, Ill.), Diana Taurasi (1998-99 & 1999-00, Don Antonio Lugo HS, Calif.), Maya Moore (2005-06 Collins Hill HS, Ga.), Rashanda McCants (2004-05, Asheville HS, N.C.), Shyra Ely (1999-00, Ben Davis HS, Ind.) and Lisa Leslie (1988-89, Morningside HS, Calif.).

The 5-foot-8 senior point guard led the Mavericks to a 23-4 record and their second straight Class 5A state title this past season. Slocum averaged 24.6 points, 6.8 rebounds and 6.1 assists while shooting 47.3 percent from inside the arc. The state's returning Gatorade Idaho Girls Basketball Player of the Year, she is a 2016 McDonald's All-American and ranks as the nation's No. 7 in the Class of 2016 as rated by ESPN HoopGurlz.

Slocum has maintained a 3.89 GPA in the classroom. A leader in her church youth group, she has volunteered locally on behalf of KTVBCares Day to benefit Idaho needy in association with KTVB-TV, in addition to donating her time as a youth basketball coach.

"Destiny Slocum's passion for the game of basketball makes her a premier point guard," said Mountain View head coach Connie Skogrand. "She's a student of the game and a leader and you can count on her to make clutch plays at crunch times. She inspires her teammates to be better in subtle ways. Destiny Slocum has helped elevate the play of high school girls' basketball."

Slocum has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on scholarship at the University of Maryland 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.

Two-time winner Slocum joins Gatorade Idaho Girls Basketball Players of the Year Leah Bonner (2013-14, Skyview High School), Dani Failor (2012-13, Post Falls High School), Tisha Phillips (2011-12, Lewiston High School), Jackie Luna-Castro (2010-11, Boise High School), Katelyn Loper (2009-10, Post Falls High School), and Katie Baker (2008-09, 2007-08 & 2006-07, Lake City High School) 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](http://www.gatorade.com/poy).

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