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**TILTON SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE® NEW HAMPSHIRE GIRLS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (March 13, 2017) — In its 32nd year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, today announced Liv Orlando of Tilton School as its 2016-17 Gatorade New Hampshire Girls Basketball Player of the Year. Orlando is the first Gatorade New Hampshire Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Tilton 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 Orlando as New Hampshire'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, Orlando joins an elite alumni association of past state girls basketball award-winners, including Maya Moore (2005-06, Collins Hill HS, Ga.), Rashanda McCants (2004-05, Asheville HS, N.C.), Candace Parker (2001-02, Naperville Central HS, Ill.), Diana Taurasi (1998-99 & 1999-00, Don Antonio Lugo HS, Calif.), Shyra Ely (1999-00, Ben Davis HS, Ind.) and Lisa Leslie (1988-89, Morningside HS, Calif.).

The 5-foot-10 senior guard led the Rams to a 24-5 record and the New England Prep School Athletic Council Class B tournament championship this past season. Orlando averaged 16.5 points, 11.4 rebounds, 5.9 assists and 4.9 steals per game. A four-time NEPSAC All-Star and a three-time NEPSAC tournament championship game MVP, she concluded her prep basketball career with 1,476 points, 1,048 rebounds, 522 assists and 393 steals, all school records.

The Tilton School student body president, Orlando has volunteered locally as a school tour guide and a dorm proctor. She has also donated her time at a youth center and a home for veterans. "Liv is the heart and soul of the Tilton squad," said Grace Rehnquist, head coach of Northfield Mount Hermon School. "She will do whatever it takes to make sure that team is successful."

Orlando has maintained an A average in the classroom. She has signed a national letter of intent to play basketball on scholarship at Providence College beginning 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.

Orlando joins recent Gatorade New Hampshire Girls Basketball Players of the Year Becca Ripley (2015-16, New Hampton School), Maddy Springfield (2014-15, Conant High School), Aliza Simpson (2013-14, Londonderry High School), Jamie Sherburne (2012-13, Bishop Guertin High School), Kirsten O'Neil (2011-12, Winnacunnet High School), Danielle Walczak (2010-11, Oyster River High School), Tiffany Ruffin (2009-10, 2008-09 & 2007-08, Winnacunnet High School), and Stefanie Murphy (2006-07, Londonderry High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a Gatorade Player of the Year, Liv 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.

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