**Contact: Kelsey Rhoney (312-729-3685)** 

## CROWN POINT HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE® INDIANA SOFTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 5, 2017) — In its  $32^{nd}$  year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, today announced Alexis Holloway of Crown Point High School as its 2016-17 Gatorade Indiana Softball Player of the Year. Holloway is the second Gatorade Indiana Softball Player of the Year to be chosen from Crown Point 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 field, distinguishes Holloway as Indiana's best high school softball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Softball Player of the Year award announced in June, Holloway joins an elite alumni association of past state softball award-winners, including Catherine Osterman (2000-01, Cy Spring High School, Texas), Kelsey Stewart (2009-10, Arkansas City High School, Kan.), Carley Hoover (2012-13 D.W. Daniel High School, S.C.), Jenna Lilley (2012-13, Hoover High School, Ohio), Morgan Zerkle (2012-13 Cabell Midland High School, W. Va.), and Rachel Garcia (2014-15, Highland High School, Calif.).

The 5-foot-3 senior right-handed pitcher had led the Bulldogs to a 26-2 record and a berth in the Class 4A state tournament at the time of her selection. Holloway owned an 18-1 record and a 0.27 ERA in the circle along with a .468 batting average and 22 RBI through 19 games. She struck out 224 batters and walked just 11 through 130.1 innings pitched. A Miss Softball finalist, Holloway is a three-time First Team All-State honoree and is ranked as the nation's No. 2 recruit in the Class of 2017 by FloSoftball.

A math tutor for younger students, Holloway has volunteered locally on behalf of Habitat for Humanity and youth sports programs. "Alexis Holloway has been an incredible player for several years," said Brooke El Othmani, head coach at Harrison High School. "She throws hard, but it's her movement that's most impressive. She's the toughest pitcher we've faced."

Holloway has maintained a weighted 4.42 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to play softball on scholarship at the University of Notre Dame 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.

Holloway joins recent Gatorade Indiana Softball Players of the Year Miranda Elish (2015-16, 2014-15 & 2013-14, Crown Point High School), Erin Rethlake (2012-13, Huntington North High School), Brooke Boetjer (2011-12, South Putnam High School), Kelsi Jones (2010-11, Carmel High School), Morgan Lewis (2009-10, Lutheran High School), Mel Dumezich (2008-09, Whiting High School), Katie Hackney (2007-08, Huntington North High School), and Emily Wethington (2006-07, Scecina Memorial High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a Gatorade Player of the Year, Alexis 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 the conversation on Twitter #GatoradePOY. 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>