

**Contact: John Manzo (312-729-3656)**

**CARMEL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE INDIANA BOYS TRACK & FIELD PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 22, 2017) — In its 32<sup>nd</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, today announced Ryan Lipe of Carmel High School as its 2016-17 Gatorade Indiana Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Lipe is the second Gatorade Indiana Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Carmel 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 Lipe as Indiana's best high school boys track & field athlete. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year award to be announced in June, Lipe joins an elite alumni association of state track & field award-winners, including Lolo Jones (1997-98, Roosevelt High School, Iowa), Allyson Felix (2002-03, Los Angeles Baptist High School, Calif.), Robert Griffin III (2006-07, Copperas Cove High School, Texas), Grant Fisher (2013-14 & 2014-15, Grand Blanc High School, Mich.) and Candace Hill (2014-15, Rockdale County High School, Ga.).

The 6-foot-2, 180-pound senior cleared 17 feet, three inches in the pole vault at the state meet this past season, winning his second consecutive individual title and leading the Greyhounds to the state championship as a team. Lipe's winning vault ranked as the nation's No. 6 clearance among prep competitors in 2017 at the time of his selection. He also finished second at the state meet in the 100-meter dash with a time of 10.61 seconds.

Lipe has served in student government and has volunteered locally on behalf of the Bridgewater Rehabilitation Centre. "In my 28 years of coaching, Ryan Lipe is definitely one of the top three athletes that I have ever coached," said Carmel coach Kenneth Browner. "He's a super competitive young man who never takes a rep off and brings a 'can't lose' attitude to every event he competes in."

Lipe has maintained a weighted 4.13 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete on an athletic scholarship at the University of Alabama 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.

Lipe joins recent Gatorade Indiana Boys Track & Field Athletes of the Year Ben Veatch (2015-16, Carmel High School), Deakin Volz (2014-15, Bloomington High School South), Deakin Volz (2013-14, Bloomington High School South), Codie Hamsley (2012-13, Floyd Central High School), Futsum Zeinasellassie (2011-12, North Central High School), Austin Mudd (2010-11 & 2009-10, Center Grove High School), Corey Shank (2008-09, Northrop High School), Kevin Schipper (2007-08, Bishop Dwenger High School), and Arthur "Scott" Wims (2006-07, Northrop High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a Gatorade Player of the Year, Ryan 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](http://www.gatorade.com/poy).

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