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**MOUNTAIN VIEW HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE IDAHO GIRLS 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 Lexy Halladay of Mountain View High School as its 2016-17 Gatorade Idaho Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Halladay is the first Gatorade Idaho Girls Track & Field Athlete 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 track, distinguishes Halladay as Idaho'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, Halladay 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 5-foot-6 freshman distance runner broke the tape in the mile-run at the prestigious adidas Boost Boston Games earlier this month with a winning time of 4:41.80, which ranked as the nation's No. 1 performance among prep competitors in 2017 at the time of her selection. The state's 2016-17 Gatorade Girls Cross Country Runner of the Year, Halladay also won two individual state titles and shared in a third this spring, leading the Mavericks to the Class 5A championship as a team. She captured the 1600-meter run with a time of 4:52.51, the 3200-meter run in 10:30.80 and anchored the winning 4x400-meter relay quartet in 3:58.33.

An accomplished violinist, Halladay has volunteered locally on behalf of her church and an assisted living facility. "Lexy Halladay is representing Idaho very well and is a great competitor," said Aaron Olswanger, head coach at Boise High School. "I cannot think of anyone in the state I'd even recommend over her for this award."

Halladay has maintained a 3.85 GPA in the classroom. She will begin her sophomore year of high school 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.

Halladay joins recent Gatorade Idaho Girls Track & Field Athletes of the Year Sara Christianson (2015-16, Borah High School), Emily Hamlin (2014-15 & 2013-14, Boise High School), Allison Jeffries (2012-13, Eagle High School), Brittany Owens (2011-12 & 2010-11, Borah High School), Allee Cooper (2009-10, Eagle High School), Liz Brandon (2008-09, Eagle High school), and Nicole Nielsen (2007-08 & 2006-07, Borah High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a Gatorade Player of the Year, Lexy 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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