

Contact: John Manzo (312-729-3656)

**GLACIER HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE MONTANA GIRLS TRACK & FIELD PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 22, 2017) — In its 32nd year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, today announced Annie Hill of Glacier High School as its 2016-17 Gatorade Montana Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Hill is the first Gatorade Montana Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Glacier 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 Hill as Montana'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, Hill 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-2 junior distance runner captured three individual state titles this spring, leading the Wolfpack to a second-place finish at the Class AA state meet. Hill won the 800-meter run with a time of 2:09.27, the 1600-meter run in 4:54.61 and broke the tape in the 3200-meter run in 10:46.10. The state's 2015-16 Gatorade Girls Cross Country Runner of the Year, her winning time of 4:47.30 in the 1600 at the Archie Roe Invitational ranked as the nation's No. 11 performance among prep competitors in 2017 at the time of her selection.

An accomplished pianist and violinist, Hill is a member of the National Honor Society and has volunteered locally on behalf of the Boys and Girls Club of America. "Annie Hill is one of the premier track and field athletes from Montana," said Arie Grey, head coach at Butte High. "The range that she has is truly remarkable. She had a very special year and is a true representative of Montana Track & Field. She is a special athlete and a lot of fun to watch."

Hill has maintained a 4.0 GPA in the classroom. She will begin her senior 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.

Hill joins recent Gatorade Montana Girls Track & Field Athletes of the Year Christina Aragon (2015-16 & 2014-15, Billings Senior High School), Erika McLeod (2013-14, Butte High School), Morgan Sulser (2012-13, Billings Senior High School), Danielle Aragon (2011-12 & 2010-11, Billings Senior High School), Kellee Glaus (2009-10, Whitehall High School), Alexa Aragon (2008-09, Billings Senior High School), Melissa Jenkins (2007-08, Big Sky High School), and Marissa Tschida (2006-07, Loyola Sacred Heart High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a Gatorade Player of the Year, Annie 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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