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**BOZEMAN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE MONTANA GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY RUNNER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (January 29, 2018) — In its 33<sup>rd</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, today announced Camila Noe of Bozeman High School as its 2017-18 Gatorade Montana Girls Cross Country Runner of the Year. Noe is the third Gatorade Montana Girls Cross Country Runner of the Year to be chosen from Bozeman 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 racecourse, distinguishes Noe as Montana's best high school girls cross country runner. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Girls Cross Country Runner of the Year award to be announced in January, Noe joins an elite alumni association of past state award-winners in 12 sports, including Lukas Verzbicas (2010-11, 2009-10 Carl Sandburg, Orland Park, Ill.), Megan Goethals (2009-10, Rochester, Rochester Hills, Mich.), Jordan Hasay (2008-09, Mission College Prep., San Luis Obispo, Calif.) and Chris Derrick (2007-08, Neuqua Valley, Naperville, Ill.).

The 5-foot-7 senior won the Class AA state meet this past season with a time of 17:28.0, breaking the tape 37.8 seconds ahead of her next-closest competitor and leading the Hawks to their 11th-straight state championship as a team. Noe shaved nearly nine seconds off the course record at the Nike Cross Nationals Northwest Regional championships with her winning time of 17:13.5. She finished 51st at the NXN Final, leading the Hawks to a fifth-place finish in the national team competition.

Noe has volunteered locally with the Special Olympics and she has donated her time to multiple community road races. "Camila was the most consistent female runner in the state and had a great state meet," said Nathan Gregier, head coach of C.M. Russell High. "She handles pressure very well and always runs her own race."

Noe has maintained a 3.52 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to run cross country on scholarship at the University of Portland 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.

Noe joins Gatorade Montana Girls Cross Country Runners of the Year Tiahna Vladic (2016-17, Billings Senior High School), Annie Hill (2015-16, Glacier High School), Makena Morley (2014-15, 2013-14, 2012-13 & 2011-12, Bigfork High School), Caroline Hardin (2010-11, Bozeman High School), and Heidi Turner (2009-10, 2008-09 & 2007-08, Bozeman High School) as athletes who have won the cross-country award since its inception in 2007.

As a Gatorade Player of the Year, Noe 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 <http://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com/>.

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