

Contact: Kelsey Rhoney (312-729-3685)

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

CHICAGO (June 21, 2018) — In its 33rd year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, today announced Tre'Bien Gilbert of Judson High School as its 2017-18 Gatorade Texas Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Gilbert is the first Gatorade Texas Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Judson 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 Gilbert as Texas'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, Gilbert 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-11, 167-pound senior won the 110-meter high hurdles at the Class 6A state meet with a time of 13.53 seconds, which ranked as the nation's No. 1 performance among prep competitors in 2018 at the time of his selection. Gilbert also won the 300-meter intermediate hurdles in 36.18, which ranked as the nation's No. 3 clocking. In addition, he anchored the 4x400 relay quartet, lifting the Rockets to second place as a team.

A talented musician, Gilbert has participated in his church's young adult ministry. "The heartache and disappointment Tre'Bien experienced last year when he was injured fueled him for greatness this year," said Judson coach Joel Call. "He's different now because he had what he loved—track—taken away from him, and it made him a stronger, more resilient person in times of trial."

Gilbert has maintained an A average in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete in track and field on scholarship at the University of Arkansas 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.

Gilbert joins recent Gatorade Texas Boys Track & Field Athletes of the Year Sam Worley (2016-17, Canyon High School), Adrian Piperi (2015-16, Canyon High School), Norman Grimes (2014-15, Canyon High School), Kendall Sheffield (2013-14, Thurgood Marshall High School), Tony Brown (2012-13, Ozen High School), Abraham Hall (2011-12, South Grand Prairie High School), Devin Field (2010-11, Lancaster High School), Sheroid Evans (2009-10, Dulles), Marquise Goodwin (2008-09 & 2007-08, Rowlett), and LeGerald Betters (2006-07, Waco) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a Gatorade Player of the Year, Gilbert 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.

###