

## MOUNTAIN VIEW HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE IDAHO GIRLS TRACK & FIELD PLAYER OF THE YEAR

**CHICAGO** (June 20, 2019) — In its 34<sup>th</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 **2018-19 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 state's 2016-17 Gatorade Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year, the 5-foot-7 junior won the 800-meter run, the 1,600-meter run and the 3,200-meter run at the Class 5A state meet this past season, leading the Mavericks to a third-place finish as a team. Halladay's winning time of 4:43.74 in the 1,600 set a meet record and ranked No. 8 nationally among prep competitors at the time of her selection. Also a two-time state Gatorade Idaho Girls Cross Country Runner of the Year, she has won nine individual state titles.

A violinist in the Mountain View High school orchestra, Halladay has volunteered locally at an assisted living facility, where her father is an administrator. She has also donated her time to multiple community service initiatives through her church youth group. "Lexy is an extremely talented and very determined individual," said Tim Severa, Borah High School head coach. "She works hard and is amazingly determined."

Halladay has maintained a 3.77 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. From the 12 national winners, one male and one female athlete are each named Gatorade High School Athlete of the Year. In all, 607 athletes are honored each year.

Two-time winner Halladay joins Gatorade Idaho Girls Track & Field Athletes of the Year Maggie Liebich (2017-18, Boise High School), Sara Christianson (2015-16, Borah High School), and Emily Hamlin (2014-15 & 2013-14, Boise High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a part of Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Halladay also has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national youth sports organization of her choosing. She is also eligible to submit an essay to win one of twelve \$10,000 spotlight grants for the organization of choice, which will be announced throughout the year.

Since the program's inception in 1985, Gatorade Player of the Year award recipients have won hundreds of professional and college championships, and many have also turned into pillars in their communities, becoming coaches, business owners and educators.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit [www.Gatorade.com/POY](http://www.Gatorade.com/POY), on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY](http://www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY) or follow us on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/Gatorade](http://www.twitter.com/Gatorade).