CAPITAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE WASHINGTON GIRLS TRACK & FIELD PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (July 2, 2021) — In its 36th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Amanda Moll of Capital High School** as its **2020-21 Gatorade Washington Girls Track & Field Player of the Year**. Moll is the first Gatorade Washington Girls Track & Field Player of the Year to be chosen from Capital 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 field, distinguishes Moll as Washington's best high school girls track & field athlete. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Girls Track & Field Player of the Year award to be announced in July, Moll joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, 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-9 sophomore set a national sophomore record in the pole vault this past season. At the time of her selection, Moll's leap of 14 feet, 7.25 inches at the Chula Vista High Performance Meet ranked No. 2 nationally among 2021 prep competitors in her event and No. 5 in high school history. Moll was also the South Sound Conference champion in the long jump and earned a share of another title as part of Capital's 4×100 -meter relay quartet. She set the national freshman record in the pole vault last summer with a clearance of 14-3.75.

An avid rock climber and mountain biker, Moll has volunteered locally on behalf of the Mayday Foundation, which provides financial support for families battling cancer, in addition to donating her time at a food pantry. "Amanda Moll is an incredibly hard-working, diligent and humble athlete," said Margret Dallas, head coach of Capital High. "She has laser focus and is a true student of the sport."

Moll has maintained a 4.0 GPA in the classroom. She will begin her junior year of high school this fall.

The <u>Gatorade Player of the Year</u> 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 works with top sport-specific experts and a media advisory board of accomplished, veteran prep sports journalists to determine the state winners in each sport.

Moll joins recent Gatorade Washington Girls Track & Field Players of the Year Allie Janke (2019-20 & 2018-19, North Central High School), Karlee Freeman (2017-18, Raymond High School), and Taylor Roe (2016-17, Lake Stevens High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Through Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Moll has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national youth sports organization of their choosing. Moll is also eligible to submit a 30-second video explaining why the organization they chose is deserving of one of twelve \$10,000 spotlight grants, which will be announced throughout the year. To date, Gatorade Player of the Year winners' grants have totaled more than \$2.7 million across 1,117 organizations.

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 playeroftheyear.gatorade.com, on Facebook at facebook.com/GatoradePOY or follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/Gatorade.