FREMONT HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE UTAH GIRLS TRACK & FIELD PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 30, 2022) — In its 37th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Amare Harlan** of **Fremont High School** is the **2021-22 Gatorade Utah Girls Track & Field Player of the Year**. Harlan is the first Gatorade Utah Girls Track & Field Player of the Year to be chosen from Fremont 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 Harlan as Utah'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, Harlan 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 (2014-15 & 2013-14, Grand Blanc High School, Mich.) and Candace Hill (2014-15, Rockdale County High School, Ga.).

The 5-foot-4 junior swept the 100- and 200-meter runs as well as the long jump at the Class 6A state meet this past season, completing the feat for a second straight year and leading the Silverwolves to an eighth-place finish as a team. Harlan's winning time of 23.83 seconds in the 200 ranked No. 40 in the nation among prep girls competitors in 2022 at the time of her selection. Harlan's career-best leap of 19 feet, 8.25 inches in the long jump ranked No. 18 in the country, while her top personal-best mark of 11.58 seconds ranked No. 24.

Voted prom queen at Fremont High, Harlan is a four-year class officer of the student body. She has volunteered locally with her time with Kash-4-Kids, a service project that provides Christmas experiences for families in need. "Amare Harlan is amazing," said Zac Connors, head coach of Weber High. "She is an incredible talent and very versatile in what events she excels at."

Harlan has maintained a 4.0 GPA in the classroom. She will begin her senior 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 leverages experts including coaches, scouts, media and others as sources to help evaluate and determine the state winners in each sport.

Harlan joins recent Gatorade Utah Girls Track & Field Players of the Year Carlee Hansen (2021-20 & 2019-20, Woods Cross High School), and Meghan Hunter (2018-19 & 2017-18, Provo High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Gatorade has a long-standing history of serving athlete communities and understands how sports instill valuable lifelong skills on and off the field. Through Gatorade's "Play it Forward" platform, Harlan has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national organization of their choosing that helps young athletes realize the benefits of playing sports. Harlan is also eligible to submit a short 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 \$3.5 million across more than 1,300 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 studentathletes, visit playeroftheyear.gatorade.com or follow us on social media on Facebook at facebook.com/GatoradePOY, Instagram at instagram.com/Gatorade and Twitter at twitter.com/Gatorade.