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JESUIT HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® OREGON VOLLEYBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (December 14, 2010) — In its third decade of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPN RISE, today announced Elizabeth Brenner of Jesuit High School as its 2010-11 Gatorade Oregon Volleyball Player of the Year. Brenner is the second Gatorade Oregon Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Jesuit 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 court, distinguishes Brenner as Oregon's best high school volleyball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Volleyball Player of the Year award announced in December, Brenner joins an elite alumni association of past state volleyball award winners, including USA Volleyball Olympians Kim Glass (2001-02, Horseshoe HS, Penn.), Kim Willoughby (1998-99, 1999-00, Assumption HS, La.) and Ogonna Nnamani (1999-00, University HS, Ill).

The state's returning Gatorade Volleyball Player of the Year, the 6-foot-1 senior middle blocker recorded 555 kills, 207 digs, 129 blocks and 63 service aces this past season while posting a kill percentage of .546, leading the Crusaders (38-4) to the Class 6A state title match for the second straight year. A 2010 American Volleyball Coaches Association First Team All-American, she is *The Oregonian's* two-time Player of the Year as well as the Metro League's two-time Player of the Year.

Brenner has maintained a 3.38 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally with PAL summer youth camps as well as at an assisted living facility.

"Elizabeth Brenner was the player to watch," said Mallory Larranaga, head coach of rival Mountain View High. "Front row, back row and from the service line she was fun to play against and did the most damage. I've played, coached and watched for a long time and I have never seen a player like her."

Brenner has signed a National Letter of Intent to play volleyball on scholarship at the University of Oregon beginning in the fall of 2011.

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 ESPN RISE and the Gatorade high school sports leadership team, 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.

Two-time winner Brenner joins recent Gatorade Oregon Volleyball Players of the Year Garyn Schlatter (2008-09, Canby) and Kim Hill (2007-08, Portland Christian) among the state's list of former award winners.

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 playeroftheyear.gatorade.com.