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**HEBRON HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® TEXAS 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 Tiffany Baker of Hebron High School as its 2010-11 Gatorade Texas Volleyball Player of the Year. Baker is the first Gatorade Texas Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Hebron 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 Baker as Texas' best high school volleyball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Volleyball Player of the Year award announced in December, Baker 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 6-foot-3 senior middle blocker and outside hitter led the Hawks to a 44-7 record and the Class 5A state title this past season. Baker recorded 661 kills, 296 digs and 276 blocks and was selected as a 2010-11 Under Armour First Team All-American. A First Team All-State selection and the nation's No. 4 senior as rated by PrepVolleyball.com, she was also MVP of the Class 5A state tournament and earned *Dallas Morning News* Player of the Year honors.

Baker has maintained a 3.63 GPA in the classroom. A member of the National Honor Society, she has volunteered locally as part of a fundraising campaign to support cancer patients.

"Baker is such a huge threat in the middle blocker position with her lateral quickness, huge block and quick arm swing," said Kelly Quinn, head coach of rival McKinney Boyd High. "She's also a great passer, and for being so tall, she is incredibly agile and plays great defense in the back row."

Baker has signed a National Letter of Intent to play volleyball on scholarship at the University of Tennessee 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.

Baker joins recent Gatorade Texas Volleyball Players of the Year Sara Shaw (2009-10, Westlake), Torri Campbell (2008-09, Amarillo) and Brianne Barker (2007-08, Amarillo) 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.

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