## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Contact: Julie Mason (412-561-1014)** 

## FLINT HILL SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® VIRGINIA 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 Tori Janowski of Flint Hill School as its 2010-11 Gatorade Virginia Volleyball Player of the Year. Janowski is the first Gatorade Virginia Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Flint Hill 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 Janowski as Virginia's best high school volleyball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Volleyball Player of the Year award announced in December, Janowski 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 5-foot-10 senior setter and outside hitter led the Huskies to a 33-0 record and the Virginia Independent Schools Athletic Association Division I state title this past season. Janowski recorded 367 assists, 268 kills, 187 digs and 82 service aces while posting a kill percentage of .439. A 2010 American Volleyball Coaches Association Honorable Mention All-American, Janowski was the 2010 VISAA State Tournament MVP and the 2009 *Washington Post* All-Met Player of the Year.

Janowski has maintained a 3.25 GPA in the classroom. The editor-in-chief of the Flint Hill School yearbook, she has volunteered locally at Jill's House to support special needs children and their families and as a Sunday School teacher at her church.

"Tori Janowski is an all-around fantastic player," said Jim Bour, head coach of Westfield High. "What sets her apart are the other things she does: defense, setting, hitting. Her serve is one of the most deadly serves I've seen. When I look at the kind of player I want, I would start with Janowski because of her all-around ability."

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

Janowski joins recent Gatorade Virginia Volleyball Players of the Year Juliane Hanna (2009-10, Loudoun County), Kristin Carpenter (2008-09, Hanover) and Alyssa Lang (2007-08, Deep Run) 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.