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**MARANATHA HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® CALIFORNIA BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 2, 2010) — In its 25th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPN RISE, today announced Dylan Covey of Maranatha High School as its 2009-10 Gatorade California Baseball Player of the Year. Covey is the first Gatorade California Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Maranatha 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 Covey as California's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year award announced in June, Covey joins an elite alumni association of past state baseball award winners, including Derek Jeter (1991-92, Kalamazoo HS, Mich.), Roy Halladay (1994-95, Arvada West HS, Colo.), David Price (2003-04, Blackman HS, Tenn.), Chipper Jones (1989-90, Bolles School, Fla.), Derek Lee (1992-93, El Camino HS, Calif.) and John Lester (2001-02, Bellarmine Prep, Wash.).

The 6-foot-2, 200-pound senior right-handed pitcher and outfielder led the Minutemen (19-10) to the CIF Southern Section Division V quarterfinals, posting a 7-1 record with three saves, a 0.40 ERA, 138 strikeouts and 20 walks in 70.2 innings while batting .414 with a home run and 17 RBIs. A 2009 Aflac All-American and the 2009 Division V Player of the Year, Covey is rated as the No. 2 prospect in the Class of 2010 by Perfect Game USA and No. 4 by Baseball America.

Covey has maintained an unweighted 3.04 GPA in the classroom. He is active in his church community where he has volunteered as part of multiple community service initiatives on behalf of its youth group.

"Covey is the best high school pitcher I've ever seen and I've seen some good ones," said Polytechnic School Head Coach Wayne Ellis. "When we played them, we hit four fair balls against him and that was a day after we had 25 hits and scored 26 runs. He consistently hit 94 and 95 mph on our radar gun. He's as good as anyone I've ever seen."

Covey has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on scholarship at the University of San Diego this fall, but is projected as an early round selection in this month's Major League Baseball First-Year Player Draft.

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.

Covey joins recent Gatorade California Baseball Players of the Year Matt Hobgood (2008-09, Norco), Kyle Skipworth (2007-08, Patriot) and Josh Vitters (2006-07, Cypress) 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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