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**BOONVILLE HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® MISSOURI 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 Chuckie Jones of Boonville High School as its 2009-10 Gatorade Missouri Baseball Player of the Year. Jones is the first Gatorade Missouri Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Boonville 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 Jones as Missouri's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year award announced in June, Jones 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-3, 235-pound senior outfielder batted .525 with 46 runs scored, 46 RBI and 10 home runs this season, leading the Pirates (20-5) to the second round of the Class 3 state tournament, where they eventually fell to Pembroke Hill, 10-9. A Rawlings/Perfect Game Preseason All-America Honorable Mention, Jones recorded a 1.088 slugging percentage and a .638 on-base percentage this spring. A two-time returning Class 3 First Team All-State selection, he hit .461 with 30 runs scored and seven home runs as a junior.

Also a football and basketball standout, Jones has maintained a B average in the classroom. He has volunteered as a youth sports instructor.

"Chuckie has tremendous athleticism, strength and speed," said Boonville Head Coach Tim Edwards. "He possesses all of the tools necessary to play baseball at the highest level. He works hard and is a positive role model for his peers and young players in our community."

Jones will attend Maple Woods Community College this fall, where he will play baseball.

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.

Jones joins recent Gatorade Missouri Baseball Players of the Year Jacob Turner (2008-09, Westminster Christian Academy), Tim Melville (2007-08, Holt) and Nicholas Tepesch (2006-07, Blue Springs) 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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