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**DUNBAR HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA GIRLS TRACK & FIELD ATHLETE OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 24, 2010) — In its 25th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPN RISE, today announced Angela Bonham of Dunbar High School as its 2009-10 Gatorade District of Columbia Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Bonham is the second Gatorade District of Columbia Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Dunbar 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 track, distinguishes Bonham as District of Columbia's best high school girls track & field athlete. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year award to be announced in June, Bonham joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Allyson Felix (2001-02, Los Angeles Baptist, Calif.), Derek Jeter (1991-92, Kalamazoo HS, Mich.), Candace Parker (2001-02, Naperville Central HS, Ill.), Abby Wambach (1997-98, Our Lady of Mercy, N.Y.), Mark Sanchez (2004-05, Mission Viejo HS, Calif.), Lolo Jones (1997-98, Roosevelt HS, Iowa) and Bianca Knight (2006-07, Ridgeland HS, Miss.).

The 5-foot-5 senior distance runner swept the 800-meter, 1600-meter and 3200-meter events at the DCIAA Track & Field Championships this spring, leading the Crimson Tide to their third consecutive city championship as a team. Bonham also ran a leg for the victorious 4x400-meter quartet at the title meet. Also the 2008-09 Gatorade District of Columbia Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year, she is a 17-time DCIAA individual champion between cross country and track and field.

Bonham has maintained a 3.80 GPA in the classroom. A member of the Girl Scouts of America, she has volunteered as a summer camp counselor and as a Latin tutor.

"Angela Bonham is everything you could ask for in a track and field athlete," said Dunbar High head coach Marvin Parker. "Nobody works harder and no one is more committed to making herself a better runner than her."

Bonham will attend George Washington University this fall where she will compete in track and field.

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.

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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