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**CENTENNIAL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE NEVADA GIRLS TRACK & FIELD ATHLETE OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 24, 2010) — In its 25<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPN RISE, today announced Karli Johonnot of Centennial High School as its 2009-10 Gatorade Nevada Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Johonnot is the first Gatorade Nevada Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Centennial 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 Johonnot as Nevada'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, Johonnot 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-8 junior hurdler and field athlete won the 300-meter hurdles with a time of 45.01 seconds and the high jump with a clearance of 5 feet, 4 inches at the Class 4A state meet this season, leading the Bulldogs to fourth place as a team. The Female Track Athlete of the Meet at the Las Vegas Track Classic, Johonnot also finished second in the 100-meter hurdles in 15.71 and fourth in the pole vault with a clearance of 10 feet at the state meet. She placed second in the intermediate heptathlon competition at the 2009 USA Track & Field National Junior Olympic Outdoor Track & Field Championships.

Johonnot has maintained a 4.73 weighted GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally on behalf of her church, as a youth cheerleading instructor and in association with Opportunity Village, a non-profit organization serving people with intellectual abilities.

"She had a phenomenal season," said Centennial head coach Hazel Germany. "She's an all-around athlete. All her accomplishments are for the team. I admire her for that quality more than anything. Because of her training, I know I can put her in anything, and she'll perform well. Part of it is her athleticism, but it's also her will. She's determined to do well. With an athlete like that, as a coach, it's a blessing. If you need her to run it, she'll run it."

Johonnot will begin her senior year of high school this fall.

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](http://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com).

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