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

**SOUTH KINGSTOWN HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE RHODE ISLAND 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 Molly Reilly of South Kingstown High School as its 2009-10 Gatorade Rhode Island Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Reilly is the first Gatorade Rhode Island Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from South Kingstown 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 Reilly as Rhode Island'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, Reilly 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-6 senior set a pair of state records at the All-State Meet by winning the 100-meter high hurdles in 14.44 seconds and the 300-meter intermediate hurdles in 43.91 this spring, leading the Rebels to fourth place as a team. After missing the end of the 2009 outdoor season with an injury, Reilly completed an undefeated 2010 by sweeping the hurdles events at the New England Championships. The 2010 Rhode Island Track and Field Coaches Association's Athlete of the Year, she also won the 55-meter hurdles title at the Rhode Island Indoor Track & Field State Championships in February.

Reilly has maintained a 3.29 weighted GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally assisting South Kingstown High School's school beautification project and has participated in fundraising campaigns to benefit children in Africa and China.

"Molly was undefeated in everything this year," said South Kingstown head coach Joyce Harvey. "What's amazing is how she missed the state championships last year. So it was more of a big deal that she won this year. It's nice this year that she got to have some of the glory for herself."

Reilly has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete on an athletic scholarship at the University of Richmond beginning 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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