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**BRIGHTON HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE UTAH 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 Kylie Hirschi of Brighton High School as its 2009-10 Gatorade Utah Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Hirschi is the first Gatorade Utah Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Brighton 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 Hirschi as Utah'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, Hirschi 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-10 senior won four events at the Class 5A state meet this spring, leading the Bengals to third place as a team. Hirschi won the 100-meter high hurdles with a time of 14.87 seconds, the 300-meter intermediate hurdles in 43.39, the 400-meter dash in 57.11 and the 800 in 2:15.14. Hirschi won the 300 hurdles at May's BYU Invitational with a Class 5A record time of 43.29, the nation's No. 47 clocking among prep competitors at the time of her selection. The Class 5A State Track Meet Top Performer, Hirschi did not lose a race during the 2010 outdoor season.

Hirschi has maintained an unweighted 3.93 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally with the Special Olympics and as part of multiple community service initiatives in association with her church youth group.

"Kylie Hirschi did something I've never seen before," said Roger Buhrey, head coach of rival Syracuse High. "That combination at the state meet is one I haven't seen. Her times were really good, considering there wasn't a lot of recovery time in between."

Hirschi has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete on an athletic scholarship at Utah State University 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.

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