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**NATRONA COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE WYOMING 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 Baillie Gibson of Natrona County High School as its 2009-10 Gatorade Wyoming Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Gibson is the first Gatorade Wyoming Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Natrona County 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 Gibson as Wyoming'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, Gibson 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-7 senior thrower won the shot put and the discus at the Class 4A state meet this spring, leading the Fillies to fifth place as a team. A 2010 Milward Simpson Athlete of the Year finalist, Gibson set a state record in both events, launching the discus 159 feet, two inches and hurling the shot 48 feet, nine inches, both of which ranked among the nation's top 10 performances by prep competitors in 2010. Gibson is a four-time First Team All-State selection and is a seven-time individual state champion, winning four titles in the discus and three in the shot put.

Gibson has maintained a 3.80 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally as a youth softball coach and as part of multiple community clean-up initiatives.

"Baillie Gibson is a special person who also has tons of athletic ability," said Natrona County High head coach Shelly Coventry. "She is always the last to leave practice and will do whatever it takes to be successful."

Gibson has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete on an athletic scholarship at the University of Arizona 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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