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**CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE® OREGON SOFTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 9, 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 Kaitlin Inglesby of Central Catholic High School as its 2009-10 Gatorade Oregon Softball Player of the Year. Inglesby is the first Gatorade Oregon Softball Player of the Year to be chosen from Central Catholic 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 field, distinguishes Inglesby as Oregon's best high school softball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Softball Player of the Year award announced in June, Inglesby joins an elite alumni association of past state award-winners in 12 sports, including Alicia Hollowell (2000-01, Fairfield HS, 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.), Angela Tincher (2002-03, James River HS, Va.) and Kenzie Fowler (2006-07, Canyon del Oro HS, Ariz.).

The 6-foot-1 senior right-handed pitcher led the Rams (20-6) to the Class 6A state semifinals this past season, posting a 20-5 record and a 0.77 earned run average. Inglesby recorded 255 strikeouts and issued just 32 walks, hurling five no hitters, including two perfect games. She allowed only 80 hits in 163 innings. At the plate, she batted .538 with 30 walks, compiling a .684 on-base percentage and a .754 slugging percentage.

Born with a 70-percent loss of hearing in both ears, Inglesby has maintained a B average in the classroom. She has volunteered locally at a food bank, a homeless shelter and as a youth softball coach in addition to serving as a Peer Mediator at Central Catholic.

"Kaitlin Inglesby is the whole show," said Larry Nichols, head coach of rival McMinnville High. "She's carried Central Catholic a long way. She's one of the best hitters I've ever seen. She's big and strong and she's very athletic. She has tremendous bat speed. She hit a home run against us, it probably went 250-260 feet. I haven't seen a ball hit that far since I left men's fast-pitch. Kaitlin is the total package."

Inglesby has signed a National Letter of Intent to play softball on scholarship at the University of Washington 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.

Inglesby joins recent Gatorade Oregon Softball Players of the Year Anna Bertrand (2008-09, McMinnville), Paige Hall (2007-08, Jesuit) and Mikayla Endicott (2006-07, Roseburg) among the state's list of former award winners.

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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