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**Contact: Ashley Ginascol (312-729-3622)**

## **SOUTH KINGSTOWN HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® RHODE ISLAND BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 1, 2011) — In its 26<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPN RISE, today announced Harrison Barlow of South Kingstown High School as its 2010-11 Gatorade Rhode Island Baseball Player of the Year. Barlow is the first Gatorade Rhode Island Baseball Player 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 field, distinguishes Barlow as Rhode Island's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year award announced in June, Barlow joins an elite alumni association of past state baseball award winners, including Derek Jeter (1991-92, Kalamazoo HS, Mich.), Roy Halladay (1994-95, Arvada West HS, Colo.), David Price (2003-04, Blackman HS, Tenn.), Chipper Jones (1989-90, Bolles School, Fla.), Derek Lee (1992-93, El Camino HS, Calif.) and John Lester (2001-02, Bellarmine Prep, Wash.).

The 6-foot-1, 165-pound senior shortstop batted .479 along with 36 runs scored, 20 stolen bases, 14 RBI and seven doubles this past season, leading the Rebels (16-8) to a berth in the Division I state tournament. A returning First Team All-State selection, Barlow produced a .630 slugging percentage and .578 on-base percentage. Also a right-handed pitcher, Barlow posted a 1.77 ERA and 15 strikeouts against just one walk in 17.1 innings. The two-time Division I South Player of the Year, he finished with a .500 batting average at the plate in addition to a 1.99 ERA over 25 innings on the mound as a junior.

Barlow has maintained a 3.44 GPA in the classroom. In addition to donating his time as a youth baseball instructor, he has volunteered as part of the Vacation Bible School on behalf of his church community.

"He's a great ballplayer," said South Kingstown head coach James Sauro. "He's by far the best shortstop and one of the best pitchers in the state. For two years, he's been the Most Outstanding Player in the league, and three of the final four teams remaining are from Division I South. Harrison's a stud. We only had one captain this year, and it was him. Whenever things went wrong, he kept guys on task. He's a great leader."

Barlow will attend the University of Rhode Island 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.

Barlow joins recent Gatorade Rhode Island Baseball Players of the Year Anthony Aceto (2009-10, North Providence), Ryan Morris (2008-09; North Kingstown), Ryan Westmoreland (2007-08, Portsmouth), and Ryan Westmoreland (2006-07, Portsmouth), 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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