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**NEW EGYPT HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® NEW JERSEY SOFTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 9, 2011) — In its 26th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPN RISE, today announced Emily Bausher of New Egypt High School as its 2010-11 Gatorade New Jersey Softball Player of the Year. Bausher is the first Gatorade Softball Player of the Year to be chosen from New Egypt 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 Bausher as New Jersey's best high school softball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Softball Player of the Year award announced in June, Bausher 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 5-foot-8 senior right-handed pitcher led the Warriors to a 24-3 record and a berth in the Group I state championship game, scheduled for June 11. At the time of her selection, Bausher owned a 23-3 record on the mound with a 0.56 ERA and 340 strikeouts against just 24 walks in 174.2 innings. The returning Pitcher of the Year as named by *The Newark Star-Ledger* and South Jersey Girls Softball Coaches Association, she hurled 19 shutouts and seven no-hitters. Bausher batted .558 along with 43 runs scored, 26 RBI, 16 doubles and four home runs through 27 games. A returning *Star-Ledger* First Team All-State honoree, she has produced an .895 slugging percentage and .600 on-base percentage this spring.

Also a field hockey and basketball standout, Bausher has maintained a 4.44 weighted GPA in the classroom. A member of her school's Spanish and service clubs, the National Honor Society and the Future Business Leaders of America, she has volunteered locally on behalf of a food pantry, the United Way and the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life. Bausher has also donated her time as a youth softball and basketball instructor.

"Emily Bausher is a very, very good pitcher," said Debbie Schwartz, head coach of rival Toms River East High. "She's tried and tested. She has two great years back-to-back on her resume, and they haven't shied away from anybody. She's done some pretty amazing things in her career."

Bausher has signed a National Letter of Intent to play softball on scholarship at Lehigh University 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.

Bausher joins recent Gatorade New Jersey Softball Players of the Year Lauren Gaskill (2009-10, Rancocas Valley Regional), Brittany O'Donnell (2008-09, Red Bank Catholic) and Brittany O'Donnell, (2007-08, Red Bank Catholic) 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.

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