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

CHICAGO (June 9, 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 Alyssa Gillespie of Glencoe High School as its 2010-11 Gatorade Oregon Softball Player of the Year. Gillespie is the first Gatorade Softball Player of the Year to be chosen from Glencoe 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 Gillespie 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, Gillespie 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-9 senior centerfielder batted .528 with seven doubles, two triples and one home run this past season, leading the Crimson Tide (23-3) to the Class 6A state quarterfinals. The 2011 Pac 8 Conference co-Player of the Year, Gillespie recorded 37 runs scored, 24 RBI and 15 stolen bases. A two-time First Team All-State selection, Gillespie was the Player of the Game in the 2008 Class 5A state title game. She concluded her prep softball career with a .461 batting average and 135 runs scored.

Gillespie has maintained an unweighted 3.90 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally as part of a fundraising campaign to benefit breast cancer research and as a youth softball and basketball coach.

"Alyssa Gillespie is a table-setter," said Wilbur Charters, head coach of rival Southridge High. "But she's more of a three-dimensional hitter than just a slapper. She's a triple threat."

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

Gillespie joins recent Gatorade Oregon Softball Players of the Year Kaitlin Inglesby (2009-10, Central Catholic), Anna Bertrand (2008-09, McMinnville) and Paige Hall (2007-08, Jesuit), 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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