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Contact: Lauren Rollins (312-729-3607)

**BORAH HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE IDAHO GIRLS TRACK & FIELD ATHLETE OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 21, 2011) — In its 26th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPN RISE, today announced Brittany Owens of Borah High School as its 2010-11 Gatorade Idaho Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Owens is the first Gatorade Idaho Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Borah 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 Owens as Idaho'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, Owens 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, Ia.) and Bianca Knight (2006-07, Ridgeland HS, Miss.).

The 5-foot-11 junior won the long jump with a leap of 18 feet, nine and three-quarters inches and the triple jump (39-0) at the Class 5A state meet this spring. A two-time First Team All-State selection, Owens broke a 24-year-old class record in the triple jump at the state meet and also placed fourth in the event at the Caribbean Scholastic Invitational, a national event held in Puerto Rico. Her season-best of 39-1.5 in the triple jump at the YMCA Invitational ranked among the nation's top 50 performances by a prep competitor under all conditions in 2011 at the time of her selection.

Owens has maintained a 3.29 GPA in the classroom. A devoted parishioner of her church community, she has volunteered locally at an area hospital with aspirations of becoming a nurse.

"Brittany is one of the most dedicated and hard-working athletes I have ever coached," said Borah High Head Coach Jeremy Doval. "She's extremely driven and knows exactly what she needs to do to be successful."

Owens will begin her senior year of high school 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.

Owens joins recent Gatorade Idaho Girls Track & Field Athletes of the Year Allee Cooper (2009-10, Eagle), Liz Brandon (2008-09, Eagle), and Nicole Nielsen (2007-08, Borah) 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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