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**SOMERSWORTH HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE NEW HAMPSHIRE
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 Krista Vincent of Somersworth High School as its 2010-11 Gatorade New Hampshire Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Vincent is the second Gatorade New Hampshire Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Somersworth 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 Vincent as New Hampshire'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, Vincent 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-5 senior won the javelin throw at the Division I meet, the all-state Meet of Champions and the New England Interscholastic Outdoor Track & Field Championship Meet this spring. Vincent's season-best throw of 140 feet, 8 inches ranked as the nation's No. 39 distance among prep competitors in 2011 at the time of her selection. She won the javelin at the Class I state meet in 2009 and 2010 and placed 11th in the event at the Nike Outdoor Nationals in 2010.

Vincent has maintained a 3.07 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally at the Somersworth Pumpkin Fest and as a middle school track and field coach.

"Krista comes from a program that breeds javelin throwers," said Bob Mullen, head coach at rival Merrimack Valley High. "She's a dedicated athlete and she has improved so much over the last two years."

Vincent has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete in track and field on scholarship at East Carolina University beginning 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.

Vincent joins recent Gatorade New Hampshire Girls Track & Field Athletes of the Year Arianna Vailas (2009-10, Central), Jocelyn Briggs (2008-09, Winnacunnet), and Anna Cioffredi (2007-08, Lebanon) 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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