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**MINOT HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE NORTH DAKOTA GIRLS TRACK  
& FIELD ATHLETE OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 21, 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 Morgan Milbrath of Minot High School as its 2010-11 Gatorade North Dakota Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Milbrath is the first Gatorade North Dakota Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Minot 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 Milbrath as North Dakota'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, Milbrath 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-10 sophomore sprinter and hurdler won four individual Class A state championships this spring and led the Majettes to a second-place finish as a team. Milbrath broke the tape in the 100-meter dash with a time of 13:02, the 200-meter dash in 25.82 and the 400-meter dash in 56.02. A 2010 First Team All-State selection, Milbrath also captured the 300-meter intermediate hurdles with a time of 44.14. Milbrath's season-best winning time of 53.98 in the 400 at the Howard Wood Dakota Relays ranked among the nation's top 20 performances by prep competitors in 2011 at the time of her selection.

Milbrath has maintained a 3.96 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally as a youth basketball and volleyball camp counselor and on behalf of Dream Catchers USA, a non-profit organization that facilitates outdoor activities for the physically challenged.

"Morgan Milbrath is an outstanding athlete and competitor," said Tracey Heisler, head coach of rival Red River High. "She always composes herself in the highest manner during competitions."

Milbrath will begin her junior 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.

Milbrath joins recent Gatorade North Dakota Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year Laura Roesler (2009-10, 2008-09 & 2007-08, Fargo South) 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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