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**TIMPVIEW HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE UTAH 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 Lauren Baxter of Timpview High School as its 2010-11 Gatorade Utah Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Baxter is the first Gatorade Utah Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Timpview 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 Baxter as Utah'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, Baxter 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-11½ sophomore won three individual titles this spring and led the Thunderbirds to a seventh-place finish as a team at the Class 3A state meet. Baxter broke the tape in the 100-meter dash in a time of 12.08 seconds, the 200-meter dash in 24.75 and the 400 meters in 55.50. All three times were the best across all classifications at the state meet. The school record-holder in all three events, her season-best 400 time of 55.45 seconds ranked as the nation's No. 83 time among prep competitors in 2011 at the time of her selection.

Baxter has maintained a 4.0 GPA in the classroom. An active member of her church youth group, she has volunteered locally as a youth mentor and as part of a fundraising campaign to benefit an area elementary school.

"Watching Lauren run, she's all legs," said Phil Olsen, head coach of rival Provo High. "She just moves really, really well. She's just flying down the track. She's got a lot of talent and a lot of potential."

Baxter 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.

Baxter joins recent Gatorade Utah Girls Track & Field Athletes of the Year Kylie Hirschi (2009-10, Brighton), Tiffany Hellstrom (2008-09, Bonneville), and Natalie Stewart (2007-08, Spanish Fork) 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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