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**Contact: Adam Woullard (312-729-3627)**

**RADNOR HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE® PENNSYLVANIA SOFTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 6, 2012) — In its 27<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPNHS, today announced Christy Von Pusch of Radnor High School as its 2011-12 Gatorade Pennsylvania Softball Player of the Year. Von Pusch is the first Gatorade Softball Player of the Year to be chosen from Radnor 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 Von Pusch as Pennsylvania's best high school softball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Softball Player of the Year award announced in June, Von Pusch 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 right-handed pitcher posted a 14-2 record in 103.1 innings this past season, compiling a 0.81 ERA, 205 strikeouts and leading the Raiders (19-2) to their first Central League title since 1984. Von Pusch also batted .455 with three home runs and 21 RBI. She is a First Team All-State selection and the Delco Times Player of the Year.

Von Pusch has maintained a 3.81 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally on behalf of a soup kitchen and youth softball programs.

"Von Pusch has it all athletically and she's a fabulous pitcher," said Mike DiLuzio, head coach at Garnet Valley High. "She bats third in their lineup and drives in a lot of their runs too. She's a great all-around player."

Von Pusch has signed a National Letter of Intent to play softball on scholarship at Penn State University 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 ESPNHS 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.

Von Pusch joins recent two-time Gatorade Pennsylvania Softball Players of the Year Lauren Walker (2009-10 & 2010-11, Central York High School), Nicole Smith (2008-09, Milton Area) and Alexa Bryson (2007-08, Greater Latrobe) 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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