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**RAVENSCROFT SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE NORTH CAROLINA GIRLS TRACK & FIELD ATHLETE OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 20, 2012) — In its 27th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPNHS, today announced Wesley Frazier of Ravenscroft School as its 2011-12 Gatorade North Carolina Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Frazier is the first Gatorade North Carolina Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Ravenscroft 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 Frazier as North Carolina'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, Frazier 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-3 junior won this month's New Balance Outdoor National Championship in the two-mile run with a time of 10:13.43, and also finished second in the mile and third in the 5,000-meter run. Frazier also won three individual events at the North Carolina Independent Schools Athletic Association championships this spring, leading the Ravens to a second-place finish as a team. She broke the tape in the 800-meter run with a time of 2:15.67, the 1,600-meter run in 4:53.25 and the 3,200-meter run in 10:37.8 in addition to anchoring the victorious 4x400-meter relay quartet.

Frazier has maintained a 3.74 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally on behalf of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

"Wesley possesses an incredible work ethic and drive, which has led in part to her success," said Ravenscroft coach Shon Hardy. "She's a tremendous competitor, and one of the best athletes in general with whom I've had the pleasure to work."

Frazier 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 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.

Frazier joins recent Gatorade North Carolina Girls Track & Field Athletes of the Year Kendra Harrison (2010-11, Clayton High School), Sanura Eley O'Reilly (2009-10, Jack Britt), Aslynn Halvorson (2008-09, Butler), and Jacinda Evans (2007-08, Southern) 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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