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**RANGEVIEW HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® COLORADO FOOTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (December 2, 2010) — In its third decade of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPN RISE, today announced Jaleel Awini of Rangeview High School as its 2010-11 Gatorade Colorado Football Player of the Year. Awini is the second Gatorade Colorado Football Player of the Year to be chosen from Rangeview 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 Awini as Colorado's best high school football player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Football Player of the Year award announced in December, Awini joins an elite alumni association of past state award-winners in 12 sports, including Mark Sanchez (2004-05, Mission Viejo HS, Calif.), Wes Welker (1999-00, Heritage Hall HS, Okla.), Terrell Suggs (1999-00, Hamilton HS, Ariz.), Anquan Boldin (1998-99, Pahokee HS, Fla.) and Jerome Bettis (1989-90, Mackenzie HS, Mich.).

The 6-foot-3, 190-pound senior quarterback led the Raiders to an 11-1 record and the Class 5A state quarterfinals this past season. Awini passed for 1,266 yards and 23 touchdowns, completing 78-of-136 attempts and throwing just one interception. He also rushed for 1,078 yards and 16 touchdowns on 116 carries. The 2010 Central Metro League Offensive Player of the Year, Awini passed and ran for at least two touchdowns in 11 of Rangeview's 12 games.

Awini has maintained a 3.17 GPA in the classroom. The sports editor of his school newspaper, he has volunteered locally at an area food bank and nursing home, and he has donated his time to a literacy-outreach program for local elementary school students.

"He is the fastest player on the field and runs so effortlessly that he looks like he never shifts into full gear," said Mike Marquez, head coach of rival Thornton High. "The instincts and moves he displays are reminiscent of video games. Athletically, he is on a different level than nearly every player in our state."

Awini remains undecided upon a collegiate destination.

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.

Awini joins recent Gatorade Colorado Football Players of the Year Austin Hinder (2009-10, Steamboat Springs), Bryan Peters (2008-09, Rocky Mountain) and Jon Major (2007-08, Ponderosa) 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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