Contact: Julie Mason (412-561-1014)

KELL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® GEORGIA 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 Brian Randolph of Kell High School as its 2010-11 Gatorade Georgia Football Player of the Year. Randolph is the first Gatorade Georgia Football Player of the Year to be chosen from Kell 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 Randolph as Georgia's best high school football player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Football Player of the Year award announced in December, Randolph 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, 195-pound senior running back rushed for 1,068 yards and 16 touchdowns on 145 carries this past season, leading the Longhorns (12-1) to the Class AAAA state quarterfinals. A Super 11 selection as named by the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, Randolph also hauled in 17 receptions for 414 yards and five touchdowns. As a defensive back, he amassed 162 tackles, nine pass breakups, four interceptions and two fumble recoveries, anchoring a defense that allowed 13.3 points per game. A kick-returner on special teams, Randolph returned seven kickoffs for a total of 191 yards and a touchdown this past fall. He rushed for 1,300 yards and 12 touchdowns in addition to recording 125 tackles and three interceptions as a junior in 2009.

Randolph has maintained a 4.1 weighted GPA in the classroom. He has donated his time locally on behalf of a baseball program for special needs student-athletes, a cancer research foundation and his team's Christmas gift-giving campaign.

"He's just amazing," said Kell Head Coach Derek Cook. "He's got over 150 tackles and the majority of our points offensively as well. We look to him to make big plays on offense and defense. From a leadership and work ethic standpoint, he is our guy."

Randolph has verbally committed to play football on scholarship at the University of Tennessee beginning in the fall of 2011.

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.

Randolph joins recent Gatorade Georgia Football Players of the Year Hutson Mason (2009-10, Lassiter), Branden Smith (2008-09, Booker T. Washington) and Tavarres King (2007-08, Habersham Central) 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.