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**F.J. REITZ HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® INDIANA 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 Matt McIntosh of F.J. Reitz High School as its 2010-11 Gatorade Indiana Football Player of the Year. McIntosh is the second Gatorade Indiana Football Player of the Year to be chosen from F.J. Reitz 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 McIntosh as Indiana's best high school football player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Football Player of the Year award announced in December, McIntosh 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-2, 186-pound senior quarterback passed for 1,933 yards and 26 touchdowns, completing 114-of-175 attempts while throwing just five interceptions this past season, leading the Panthers (13-1) to the Class 4A semifinals. A 2009 First Team All-State selection and a 2010 Indiana Mr. Football finalist, McIntosh added 1,091 yards rushing and 14 touchdowns on 129 carries. He also averaged 33.1 yards per punt on special teams.

McIntosh has maintained a 3.56 GPA in the classroom. A member of his school's student council, he has volunteered for D.A.R.E and on behalf of multiple canned food drives for area homeless.

"Matt McIntosh is one of the best high school football players I have ever seen," said Doug Hurt, head coach of rival Castle High. "His team is a good team without him, but nearly unbeatable with him in the game. He is a better runner than 95 percent of the running backs in our state and he can throw with anyone. He is truly a special player that comes around once or twice in a coaching career."

McIntosh has verbally committed to play football on scholarship at the University of Northern Illinois 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.

McIntosh joins recent Gatorade Indiana Football Players of the Year Kofi Hughes (2009-10, Cathedral), Morgan Newton (2008-09, Carmel) and Paul McIntosh (2007-08, F.J. Reitz) 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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