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**AURORA HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® NEBRASKA 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 Tyson Broekemeier of Aurora High School as its 2010-11 Gatorade Nebraska Football Player of the Year. Broekemeier is the first Gatorade Nebraska Football Player of the Year to be chosen from Aurora 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 Broekemeier as Nebraska's best high school football player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Football Player of the Year award announced in December, Broekemeier 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-1, 180-pound senior quarterback completed 109-of-154 passes for 2,047 yards and 31 touchdowns against just three interceptions, leading the Huskies (11-1) to the Class B state semifinals this past season. A returning First Team Super-State selection as named by the *Lincoln Journal Star*, Broekemeier rushed for 630 yards and 12 touchdowns on 79 carries. Also a punter and placekicker, he averaged 38.6 yards per punt and made 35-of-38 extra-point attempts this past fall. As a junior in 2009, Broekemeier completed 102-of-150 passes for 1,752 yards and 21 touchdowns against just one interception to lead Aurora to a second consecutive Class B state title.

Also a basketball and track standout, Broekemeier has maintained a 3.94 GPA in the classroom. A member of the National Honor Society, Future Business Leaders of America and his school's peer-mentoring program, he has volunteered locally on behalf of his church and the March of Dimes. Broekemeier has also donated his time as a youth athletic instructor.

"The kid has an unbelievable arm and an unbelievable ability to make great decisions in the pocket," said Jeff Gross, head coach of rival McCook High. "When it came to the passing game, for a high school quarterback, he checked down and found the open man like I've never prepared for. You had to have more defenders than he had receivers in order to stop him, and the second you take away the pass, he'd kill you with his ability to make a good read on the option. That's what he brought to the table: His ability to make decisions on the field."

Broekemeier 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.

Broekemeier joins recent Gatorade Nebraska Football Players of the Year Bronson Marsh (2009-10, Millard South), Tyrone Sellers (2008-09, McCook) and Baker Steinkuhler (2007-08, Lincoln Southwest) 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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