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**FOOTHILL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE® NEVADA 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 Keegan Buck of Foothill High School as its 2010-11 Gatorade Nevada Football Player of the Year. Buck is the first Gatorade Nevada Football Player of the Year to be chosen from Foothill 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 Buck as Nevada's best high school football player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Football Player of the Year award announced in December, Buck 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, 200-pound senior linebacker recorded 125 tackles, including 21.5 sacks, this past season, leading the Falcons (10-2) to the Sunrise Region semifinals. The Sunrise Region Defensive Most Valuable Player, Buck forced six fumbles, blocked three kicks and returned one of his three fumble recoveries for a touchdown. He led a defense that held 10 of its 12 opponents below their season scoring average.

Buck has maintained a 3.64 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally in a hospital emergency room and as part of fundraising campaigns to benefit breast cancer research and to preserve the world's rainforests.

"Keegan Buck just goes 100 miles per hour from the first quarter to the fourth," said Preston Goroff, head coach of rival Del Sol High. "He's a real sure tackler. He's about as good as they get at the high school level. The kid's motor is non-stop. He's what you look for in a linebacker type—someone who is relentless to the ball every play."

Buck 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.

Buck joins recent Gatorade Nevada Football Players of the Year Dezerick Reed (2009-10, Del Sol), Tyler York (2008-09, Robert McQueen) and Devonte Christopher (2007-08, Canyon Springs) 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](http://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com).

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