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**KENTON HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® OHIO 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 Maty Mauk of Kenton High School as its 2010-11 Gatorade Ohio Football Player of the Year. Mauk is the second Gatorade Ohio Football Player of the Year to be chosen from Kenton 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 Mauk as Ohio's best high school football player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Football Player of the Year award announced in December, Mauk 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, 190-pound junior quarterback passed for 5,670 and 69 touchdowns, completing 372-of-568 attempts while throwing just 14 interceptions this past season, leading the Wildcats (11-2) to the Division IV regional final. The Division IV Offensive Player of the Year, Mauk had also rushed for 974 yards on 164 carries (5.9) along with 16 touchdowns. Mauk's 5,670 passing yards and 69 touchdown passes are both tops in the nation in 2010.

Mauk has maintained a 3.57 GPA in the classroom. A devoted member of his church community, he has volunteered locally as a bible camp counselor and as an officer in his school's peer leadership program.

"Maty Mauk is an outstanding football player," said Mark Hollars, head coach of rival St. Mary's High. "He has started for three years and the maturation from a raw talent into a polished quarterback is evident every time he takes the field. He is more than just a passer. Mauk can run the ball effectively and is without a doubt the leader of their football team."

Mauk will begin his senior year of high school next fall.

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.

Mauk joins recent Gatorade Ohio Football Players of the Year Jordan Hicks (2009-10, Lakota West), Storm Klein (2008-09, Licking Valley) and Dan McCarthy (2007-08, Cardinal Mooney) 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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