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MUSTANG HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® OKLAHOMA 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 David Glidden of Mustang High School as its 2010-11 Gatorade Oklahoma Football Player of the Year. Glidden is the first Gatorade Oklahoma Football Player of the Year to be chosen from Mustang 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 Glidden as Oklahoma's best high school football player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Football Player of the Year award announced in December, Glidden 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 5-foot-9, 165-pound senior wide receiver hauled in 58 receptions for 1,157 yards and 15 touchdowns, leading the Broncos (7-4) to a Class 6A state tournament berth this past season. A Class 6A First Team All-State preseason selection as named by *The Oklahoman*, Glidden also rushed for 107 yards on 13 carries in addition to completing his only passing attempt for a 35-yard touchdown. He recorded 43 tackles as a defensive back and returned four of his six interceptions for touchdowns. Glidden also returned four kickoffs for touchdowns this past fall. As a junior in 2009, Glidden collected 61 receptions for 1,046 yards and 12 touchdowns.

Also a basketball standout, Glidden has maintained a 3.71 GPA in the classroom. He has donated his time as a youth athletic instructor and as a volunteer on an Appalachia Service Project mission trip.

"He's a kid who always competes," said Nick Warehime, head coach of rival Del City High. "He carries that football team, and he carries himself well. He's one of those kids that have an outstanding personality. Since he's been there, he's been incredible. I think some of it his football knowledge. He's such a smart football player. OSU is getting a helluva football player. He's got a nose for the ball. He's a helluva athlete. That kid's awesome."

Glidden has verbally committed to play football on scholarship at Oklahoma State University 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.

Glidden joins recent Gatorade Oklahoma Football Players of the Year Demarco Cobbs (2009-10, Central), Timothy Flanders (2008-09, Midwest City) and Mark Ginther (2007-08, Jenks) 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.