Contact: Lauren Rollins (312-729-3607)

APPLETON EAST HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE WISCONSIN BOYS CROSS COUNTRY RUNNER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (January 20, 2011) — In its 26th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPN RISE, today announced Dan Schubert of Appleton East High School as its 2010-11 Gatorade Wisconsin Boys Cross Country Runner of the Year. Schubert is the second Gatorade Wisconsin Boys Cross Country Runner of the Year to be chosen from Appleton East 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 racecourse, distinguishes Schubert as Wisconsin's best high school boys cross country runner. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Boys Cross Country Runner of the Year award to be announced in January, Schubert joins an elite alumni association of past state award-winners in 12 sports, including Ryan Hall (1999-00, 2000-01, Big Bear HS, Calif.), Derek Jeter (1991-92, Kalamazoo HS, Mich.), Candace Parker (2001-02, Naperville Central HS, Ill.), Kevin Garnett (1992-93, Maudlin HS, S.C.), Abby Wambach (1997-98, Our Lady of Mercy, N.Y.) and Mark Sanchez (2004-05, Mission Viejo HS, Calif.).

The 5-foot-8, 135-pound senior raced to the Division I individual state championship this past season with a time of 15:53.71. Also the 2010 Wisconsin Cross Country Coaches Association Runner of the Year, Schubert was the fastest Wisconsin runner at the Foot Locker Midwest Regional championships, crossing the line in 12th place with a time of 15:21.0.

Schubert has maintained a 3.13 GPA in the classroom. A member of his school's student council, he has volunteered locally as an intramural basketball coach and as part of multiple community-service initiatives in association with his church youth group.

"Dan Schubert is a class-act athlete," said Stephanie Polak, head coach of rival Oshkosh High. "He is a very disciplined young man and he would always be the first to congratulate other athletes."

Schubert remains undecided upon a college 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.

Schubert joins Gatorade Wisconsin Boys Cross Country Runners of the Year Marcus Paulson (2009-10, Hamilton), Brett Kelly (2008-09, West), and Elliot Krause (2007-08, Appleton North) as athletes who have won the cross country award since its inception in 2007.

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.