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**SALESIANUM SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® DELAWARE BOYS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (February 18, 2010) — In its 25th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPN RISE, today announced Andrew O'Malley of Salesianum School as its 2009-10 Gatorade Delaware Boys Soccer Player of the Year. O'Malley is the sixth Gatorade Delaware Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Salesianum 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 O'Malley as Delaware's best high school boys soccer player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Boys Soccer Player of the Year award to be announced in May, O'Malley joins an elite alumni association of past state award-winners in 12 sports, including Alexi Lalas (1987-88, Cranbrook HS, Mich.), Derek Jeter (1991-92, Kalamazoo HS, Mich.), Candace Parker (2001-02, Naperville Central HS, Ill.), Kevin Garnett (1992-93, Maudlin HS, S.C.), Tony Meola (1986-87, Kearney HS, N.J.) and Mark Sanchez (2004-05, Mission Viejo HS, Calif.).

The 6-foot-1, 185-pound senior defender recorded five goals and eight assists this past season, leading the Sallies (14-4-1) to the state semifinals. The 2008-09 Gatorade Delaware Boys Soccer Player of the Year and a two-time Delaware High School Soccer Coaches Association Player of the Year, O'Malley is a two-time All-American selection by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America and a three-time First Team All-State pick. Salesianum had won five consecutive state titles entering the 2009 campaign.

O'Malley has maintained a 3.58 GPA in the classroom. A peer tutor at Salesianum, he has volunteered locally as a youth soccer instructor and on behalf of a food bank and homeless shelter. O'Malley has also donated his time serving the Starfinder Foundation by teaching soccer to inner-city youth.

"Andrew O'Malley has achieved everything you could think of," said Alan Mezger, O'Malley's club coach with FC Delco. "He's extremely strong and he can jump out of the arena. He's got good speed and he's got a real head on his shoulders for the game."

O'Malley has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on scholarship at the University of Notre Dame this 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.

O'Malley joins recent Gatorade Delaware Boys Soccer Players of the Year Matt Margiotta (2007-08, Salesianum School) and Kieran Rice (2006-07, Gonzaga College) 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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