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**LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® OHIO 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 Wil Trapp of Lincoln High School as its 2009-10 Gatorade Ohio Boys Soccer Player of the Year. Trapp is the first Gatorade Ohio Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Lincoln 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 Trapp as Ohio'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, Trapp 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 5-foot-8, 150-pound junior midfielder recorded nine goals and 12 assists this past season, leading the Lions (22-0-1) to the Division 1 state championship. A member of the U.S. Soccer Federation Under-18 Men's National Team, Trapp was an All-American selection by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America and is the No. 3-rated recruit in the country for the Class of 2011 by TopDrawerSoccer.com.

Trapp has maintained a 3.98 GPA in the classroom. A member of the Gahanna Lincoln High School Varsity Choir, he has volunteered at a local YMCA and as an altar boy at his church.

"Wil Trapp is definitely a top-notch player, without a doubt," said Jon Sprunger, head coach of rival Worthington-Kilbourne High. "He's the catalyst on that team that makes the whole team function. The player that controls the middle of the field and is as unselfish as he is—everyone knows he's the key, and he still sets his teammates up for fantastic goals. That's their success."

Trapp will begin his senior year of high school 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.

Trapp joins recent Gatorade Ohio Boys Soccer Players of the Year Matt Wiet (2008-09, Worthington Kilbourne), Nick Blevins (2007-08, Bloom Carroll), and Lamar Skeeter (2006-07, Fairmont) 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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