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**PARKVIEW ARTS/SCIENCE MAGNET HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® ARKANSAS BOYS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (May 6, 2010) — In its 25th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPN RISE, today announced John Lung'aho of Parkview Arts/Science Magnet High School as its 2009-10 Gatorade Arkansas Boys Soccer Player of the Year. Lung'aho is the first Gatorade Arkansas Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Parkview Arts/Science Magnet 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 Lung'aho as Arkansas' 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, Lung'aho 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-9, 175-pound senior defender led the Patriots (6-5-2) to the Class 6A quarterfinals this past season, recording 10 goals and four assists. A three-time Class 6A First Team All-State selection, Lung'aho is a member of the U.S. Youth Soccer 1992 Olympic Development Program Region III team. He concluded his varsity career with 51 goals.

Lung'aho has maintained a 3.63 GPA in the classroom. A saxophone player in his school's All-Region jazz band, he has volunteered locally as a camp counselor and as part of multiple community service initiatives in association with his church youth group.

"John Lung'aho is so versatile," said Justin Hawkins, a former Arkansas ODP coach and head coach at Central Baptist College. "He can play up top, he can play in the back. He's so athletic. He's so fast and so strong and has a real knack for scoring."

Lung'aho has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on scholarship at North Carolina State University 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.

Lung'aho joins recent Gatorade Arkansas Boys Soccer Players of the Year Taylor Hart (2008-09, Conway), Stephen Maxwell (2007-08, Conway), and Jeff Chacko (2006-07, Catholic) 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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