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**CORONA DEL MAR HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® CALIFORNIA 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 Reed Williams of Corona del Mar High School as its 2009-10 Gatorade California Boys Soccer Player of the Year. Williams is the first Gatorade California Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Corona del Mar 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 Williams as California'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, Williams 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-2, 165-pound senior forward led the Sea Kings (27-1-1) to the California Interscholastic Federation Southern Section Division IV championship and the SoCal Regional Division II championship this past season, recording 32 goals and 12 assists. The Southern Section Division IV Offensive Player of the Year, Williams scored the game's only goal as Corona del Mar beat Santa Barbara High, 1-0, for the SoCal Regional title. Williams concluded his varsity career with 69 goals and 27 assists.

Williams has maintained a 3.64 GPA in the classroom. A math tutor at Corona del Mar, he has volunteered locally as a youth soccer coach and completed a service mission trip to Mexico, where he helped build houses for the needy.

"Reed Williams is legit; he scores a lot of goals," said Bryan Wallace, an assistant coach at the University of California-Irvine. "He's big, very athletic, very good in the air. His best quality is how well he attacks the ball in the air. He's a very good player."

Williams has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on scholarship at UCLA 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.

Williams joins recent Gatorade California Boys Soccer Players of the Year Adam Jahn (2008-09 & 2007-08, Jesuit) and Jalil Anibaba (2006-07, Davis Senior) 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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