Contact: Julie Mason (412-561-1014)

## CREIGHTON PREPARATORY SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® NEBRASKA BOYS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (May 6, 2010) — In its 25<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPN RISE, today announced Taylor Reeves of Creighton Preparatory School as its 2009-10 Gatorade Nebraska Boys Soccer Player of the Year. Reeves is the fifth Gatorade Nebraska Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Creighton Preparatory 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 Reeves as Nebraska'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, Reeves 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, 190-pound senior goalkeeper had led the Junior Jays (19-2) to this week's District A-2 championship game, recording nine shutouts and allowing 13 goals in 18 games at the time of his selection. A past member of the U.S. Youth Soccer 1992 Region II Olympic Development Program team, Reeves had made 104 saves this season entering the district title game and had posted 14 career shutouts.

Reeves has maintained a 3.83 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally as a youth soccer coach and on behalf of food drives for area homeless. He also completed a World Vision mission trip to Zambia where he delivered medical supplies and helped build a school in a local village.

"Taylor has improved immensely even from the beginning of the season," said Creighton Prep Co-Head Coach Jim Swanson. "He's learned to take control of the box. He goes and gets the ball. And when he goes and gets it, there is no doubt he's getting it."

Reeves has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on scholarship at Indiana 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.

Reeves joins recent Gatorade Nebraska Boys Soccer Players of the Year Michael Burke (2008-09, Skutt Catholic), Seth Neben (2007-08, Lincoln Southwest), and Kyle Deremer (2006-07, Millard North) 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.