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**ST. MARK'S HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® DELAWARE BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 2, 2010) — In its 25th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPN RISE, today announced Taylor Mahoney of St. Mark's High School as its 2009-10 Gatorade Delaware Baseball Player of the Year. Mahoney is the fifth Gatorade Delaware Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from St. Mark's 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 Mahoney as Delaware's best high school baseball soccer player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year award announced in June, Mahoney joins an elite alumni association of past state baseball award winners, including Derek Jeter (1991-92, Kalamazoo HS, Mich.), Roy Halladay (1994-95, Arvada West HS, Colo.), David Price (2003-04, Blackman HS, Tenn.), Chipper Jones (1989-90, Bolles School, Fla.), Derek Lee (1992-93, El Camino HS, Calif.) and John Lester (2001-02, Bellarmine Prep, Wash.).

The 6-foot-1, 180-pound senior left-handed pitcher and first baseman has carried the Spartans (19-2) to the state championship scheduled for June 1, posting a 6-0 record with a 1.19 ERA and 39 strikeouts in 34.1 innings. At the plate, he owned a .408 batting average with three home runs, 22 RBIs and a .745 slugging percentage through 21 games. A 2009 First Team All-State selection, Mahoney was also the winning pitcher for St. Mark's in the 2009 state championship game.

Mahoney has maintained an unweighted 3.51 GPA in the classroom. He is an active member of his church community and has volunteered locally at youth baseball camps.

"Taylor Mahoney is the ultimate competitor on the field," said St. Mark's High Head Coach Matt Smith. "He has three pitches that he can throw for strikes at any time and he's one of the best hitters on our team."

Mahoney has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on scholarship at Pennsylvania's St. Joseph's 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.

Mahoney joins recent Gatorade Delaware Baseball Players of the Year Eric Buckland (2008-09, Caravel Academy) and Derrik Gibson (2007-08 & 2006-07, Seaford) 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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