

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Julie Mason (412-561-1014)

**CARVER HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® ALABAMA BOYS TRACK & FIELD ATHLETE OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 22, 2010) — In its 25th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPN RISE, today announced Keenan Brock of Carver High School as its 2009-10 Gatorade Alabama Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year.

The award, which recognizes not only outstanding athletic excellence, but also high standards of academic achievement and exemplary character demonstrated on and off the track, distinguishes Brock as Alabama's best high school boys track & field athlete. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year award to be announced in June, Brock joins an elite alumni association of past state award-winners in 12 sports, including Ryan Hall (1999-01, Big Bear HS, Calif.), Meb Keflezighi (1993-94, San Diego HS, Calif.), Derek Jeter (1991-92, Kalamazoo HS, Mich.), Candace Parker (2001-02, Naperville Central HS, Ill.), Kevin Garnett (1992-93, Maudlin HS, S.C.), Mark Sanchez (2004-05, Mission Viejo HS, Calif.) and Lolo Jones (1997-98, Roosevelt HS, Ia.).

The 5-foot-11 senior won three individual events at the Class 5A state meet this past season and set a state record of 10.37 seconds in the 100-meter dash, the third-best time in the country at the time of his selection. Brock also won the 200-meter dash in 21.24 seconds and captured the triple jump with a leap of 44 feet, 3 inches. The *Birmingham News* Male Metro Track Athlete of the Year, Brock earned a bronze medal in the 200-meter dash at last summer's World Youth Championships.

Brock has maintained a B average in the classroom. A battalion commander in the Army Junior ROTC program, he has volunteered locally on behalf of youth track programs.

"Keenan is a very talented young man, but he's very humble," said George Washington Carver High Head Coach T.J. Williams. "He's been very consistent and very diligent in his training. I'm not surprised by anything he's accomplished."

Brock has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete on an athletic scholarship at Auburn 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.

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.

###