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**THEODORE ROOSEVELT HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA 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 Imani Kelly of Theodore Roosevelt High School as its 2009-10 Gatorade District of Columbia Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Kelly is the first Gatorade District of Columbia Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Theodore Roosevelt 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 track, distinguishes Kelly as District of Columbia'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, Kelly 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-10, 155-pound senior distance runner won four titles at the DCIAA City Championships this spring, leading the Roughriders to sixth place as a team. A 2009 *Washington Post* All-Met Honorable Mention selection, Kelly captured first place in the 800-meter run with a time of 1:59.57, adding victories in the 1500-meter steeplechase in 4:39.27, the 1600-meter run in 4:42.48 and the 3200-meter run in 10:30.43. It was the second straight year that Kelly swept all four events at the championship meet, scoring 40 of his team's 56 points in the process.

Kelly has maintained a B average in the classroom. A member of his school's journalism club and school newspaper staff, he has volunteered locally as youth fitness instructor.

"Imani Kelly is an extremely hard working kid who really puts it down on the track," said Marvin Parker, head coach of rival Dunbar High. "He's very goal-oriented and he knows how to get it done out there."

Kelly has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete on an athletic scholarship at Morgan 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.

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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